

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LVXI.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 10th June, at Weihaiwei, the wife of T. LAUNCELOT DAWSON, of a son.
On the 15th June, at Mawhera House, 1, Morrison Hill Road, the wife of YOUNG HEE, of a daughter.
On the 18th June, at No. 16 Ballestier Road, Singapore, the wife of A. H. GOODENOUGH, of a son.
On the 20th June, at Lunedin, Barker Road, the wife of ALEX. MACKENZIE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 13th June, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Rev. Griffiths Evans, Acting Colonial Chaplain HENRY WORTLEY NIXON, of Manchester, to ANNIE KATHERINE CORDISHLEY, of the Larches, Lytham, Lancashire.

DEATHS.

On the 18th May, at Fulham, MARY, the widow of the late W. CAMERON, F.G.S., Straits Settlements.
On the 3rd May, at Peking, EDITH, wife of the Rev. S. EVANS MEECH, of the London Mission, aged 53 years.
On the 10th June, at Suchien, HAMPDEN DU BOSE, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Wm. F. JUNKIN, aged 13 months.
On the 11th June, at 15, Outram Road, Singapore, HOO KIT NEO, the wife of TAN HOO LIAI, aged 24 years.
On the 13th June, at Perak Estate, Province Wellesley, F.M.S., FRANCIS PULSFORD, J.P., second son of the late Rev. JOHN PULSFORD, D.D., of Edinburgh, aged 5 years.
On the 15th June, at Tas-ek Utara, Johore Bahru, D. to WILLIAM HOLE, D.M.P.J., of the Johore Government Store, aged 61 years.
On the 15th June, at his residence, No. 1200, Singkinpang Road, Shanghai, JOAQUIM JOSE COLLACO, late of the Harbour Master's Office, Hongkong, aged 2 years.
On the 16th June, at 15, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, ARTHUR H. JAMIESON, youngest son of the late D. R. A. JAMIESON, aged 26 years.
On the 16th June, in England, EVELYN, wife of W. LEONARD THOMPSON, British and Foreign Bible Society, Shanghai.
On the 18th June, at Freiburg, Baden (Germany), EMIL MARX, formerly of Shaukiwan, Hongkong.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 26th May arrived, per P. M. s.s. *Siberia*, on the 21st June (26 days); and the German mail of the 26th May arrived, per H. A. L. s.s. *Hamburg*, on the 24th June (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEKLY.

The year's plague total now numbers 1,276 with 1,121 deaths. Details will be found on p. 456.

A school for the teaching of Russian is to be established in Tientsin by Viceroy Yunm Shikai, the chief tutor of which, it is stated, will be a brother of the present Russian Consul in Tientsin, M. N. Laptew.

General Wood, U.S.A., left Singapore for Java on the 18th inst. He was expected to return about the 28th instant and will leave for Manila via Hongkong by the German mail boat which leaves Singapore on July 3rd or 4th. The General is to be in Manila by July 12th.

The *Shanghai Times* has a Peking despatch which states that the Russians have laid a great number of mines and torpedoes on the east-line in the vicinity of Kiuchow. Harbin itself has at present a garrison consisting of 70,000 men, including infantry, artillery, and cavalry.

Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng-lu died at Foochow on the 28th May. Curiously it happens that this news reached Singapore a week earlier than Shanghai or Hongkong. The *Strait Times* of the 12th inst. published the following paragraph:—"A telegram received in Singapore late last night announces the death at Foochow, about three days ago, of Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng-lu, the late Chinese Ambassador in London. The deceased's daughter was recently married to Mr. Tan Soo Bin, son of the Hon. Tan Jik Kin, and is at present living in Singapore. The deceased died of an internal affection of the head."

Reference has frequently been made to a Russian Company which has acquired a concession to exploit certain forests on the Yalu river. The concession was granted by Corea in 1896, but the concessionaires have only recently commenced work on a large scale apparently. We learn that the Company, which is called the Russian Forest Industry Co., has a capital of three million roubles. Several thousands of workmen are said to have been engaged in in Manchuria for employment in the Yalu forests, the Russian staff being mostly recruited from the officials of the Eastern Chinese Railway. The Company owns a few steamers and is arranging, we understand, to open an agency at Port Arthur.

The new Viceroy of the Kwang provinces has proceeded to Kwangsi to crush the rebellion. He has taken a large quantity of rice with him, in view of the famine, the main cause of the revolt.

The Peking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* telegraphed on the 20th inst.:—"Although it has been stated that the railway from Peking to Chang-chi-kou (Kalgan) is to be built by a Chinese syndicate with Chinese capital, it is now understood that this syndicate is only a Russian puppet."

A Vladivostok despatch dated June 12th says:—"The Russian authorities have completed the survey of a branch railway line from a certain point to the west of Lake Baikal to Turkestan. The line is intended for military purposes. It is reported that General Kuropatkin regarded his visit to this district as one of the important features of his mission to the Far East."

The following letter is from the *Chefoo Express* of the 13th inst.:—"Sir,—What about the open door now? This week a Britisher went over to Port Arthur, and before leaving Chefoo asked the British Consul for a passport, but was told that no passports were required. Judge then his surprise, when he was not allowed to land, because he had not one. Eventually, however, they did permit him to land, but he returned the same evening. I understand that on the boats going over there is a notice in the cabins that passengers cannot land until the Chief or Inspector of Police has seen them.—Yours truly, Wandering Jew."

With reference to the telegram in the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, announcing the establishment of a new bank in Berlin with branches in Hongkong and Calcutta, we have made enquiries in the best informed German banking circles in the Colony and are led to understand that the story is extremely improbable. During the past three or four years rumours about the starting of a new Far Eastern bank with headquarters at Berlin have been again and again bruited abroad, but nothing practical has ever come out of them. If an Oriental bank were about to be established it is considered unlikely that Hongkong and Calcutta would be selected for the branches: Hongkong and Shanghai would be the more natural centres for a China bank.

The *Japan Mail* writes as follows with regard to Japanese domestic politics:—"It is evidently thought by careful observers, among them the *Fiji Shimpō*, that 'chaos' is the only term applicable to the present condition of political society. There had been a general expectation that the parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* would not leave Tokyo until some effective steps had been taken to close up the Party's ranks and re-constitute its organisation. But they have all departed, and the inference drawn is that, despairing of any satisfactory re-adjustment, they have gone to consult with their constituents. The Progressists, too, although they seem to be retaining their cohesion and standing their ground firmly, are declared to be in a condition of seething unrest, many of them being persuaded that the time has come for a grand re-organisation of parties. On the whole the outlook 'chaotic' seems to be well chosen. But we strongly suspect that when the *Seiyu-kai* members come to reflect maturely, they will appreciate the hopelessness of effecting anything without Marquis Ito."

AN ALLEGED RUSSO-JAPANESE SETTLEMENT.

(Daily Press, 22nd June.)

Our Shanghai contemporary the *N.-C. Daily News*, in a short editorial article in its issue of the 18th instant, states that Japan and Russia have come to terms. "The visit of General KUROPATKIN to Tokyo, which had no political significance," the *Daily News* says, "has resulted in the signature of a protocol, the terms of which will be found in our Kobe correspondent's telegram. Russia keeps Manchuria and Japan has her eminent rights in Corea acknowledged. The two ports in Manchuria for which Japan and the United States asked are to be opened to the trade of the world, and China remains the negligible quantity." The telegram referred to is dated Kobe, 17th June, and is to the following effect:— "General KUROPATKIN is here. The Japanese Press announces that a protocol has been signed at Tokyo recognising the supremacy of Japanese rights in Corea. Russia opens Moukden, Inkao, and Tatungkou to the trade of the world, and admits the residence there of Japanese Consuls and a limited number of merchants. General KUROPATKIN is at the 'Oriental Hotel,' where he is carefully guarded by numerous gendarmes." Confirmation of this statement will be anxiously awaited. Even were the reported terms discovered to be the basis of an agreement between Japan and Russia, it could not be held that the Manchurian question has been finally settled. There is a certain appearance of probability that Russia has made an offer to Japan on the lines above described. But there are many interests concerned in Manchuria beside those of Japan, and these are but slightly affected by the rumoured agreement between Japan and Russia.

(Daily Press, 25th June.)

In our issue of Monday, the 22nd instant, we mentioned a despatch received by the *North-China Daily News*, to the effect that the Japanese Press had announced the signature of a protocol between Japan and Russia recognising the supremacy of Japanese rights in Corea, the opening of three treaty ports in Manchuria, and the permission for residence of Japanese consuls and of a limited number of merchants in that province. This protocol was supposed to be the result of the visit of General KUROPATKIN, Russian Minister of War, to Japan. We remarked then that confirmation of the report would be anxiously awaited and that, though it was probable that Russia might offer such terms (in return for Japan's recognition of her position in Manchuria), many other interests were involved—and therefore no settlement of the Manchurian question could not yet be looked for, even should the *North China Daily News* correspondent's report be found correct. In the last number to hand of our Shanghai contemporary we find the following telegram dated Kobe, 18th June.—"The agreement between Russia and Japan reported in my telegram of yesterday is probably fictitious. Weightier papers ignore or discredit it." This may be taken as disposing entirely of the previous report. It need not now be pointed out that any such rumour argued, on the part of Japan, a complete disregard of the fourth article of the Anglo-Japanese Agreement signed on the 30th January, 1902, which ran as follows:—"The High Contracting Parties agree that neither of them will, without consulting the other, enter into

"separate agreements with another Power to the prejudice of the interests above described," i.e., in China and Corea. It would be impossible to conceive that our ally should enter into any such arrangement with Russia as was outlined in the telegram which we quoted on Monday last, without a previous reference to London, which obviously could not yet have been made. The whole story therefore may be taken to have been disproved, and the early statements of the Japanese Press that General KUROPATKIN's visit to Japan has no particular political significance may be recognised as correct. This, it will be understood, does not preclude the possibility of a suggestion having been made to Japan. Whether any such offer was made or not, we are of course not in a position to say.

SOUTH AFRICA AND CHINESE LABOUR.

(Daily Press, 24th June.)

The announcement that between two thousand and three thousand Chinese labourers have been engaged, through the medium of the Six Companies in San Francisco, to proceed to South Africa for service on the Rand is important if correct. We thought that this scheme had been knocked on the head. Chinese labour will not be welcomed in the South African gold-fields, any more than it was in California and Australia, and is not likely to be long permitted peacefully. The black labouring population will soon be up in arms against plodding John Chinaman, as typified in the Chinese miner. Nor will he be entirely welcome to the British and Boer populations. Where the Indian immigrant has failed to ingratiate himself, it is highly improbable that the Chinese, so much more aggressive and pushing, will be found more acceptable, and it cannot be doubted that their introduction is likely to prove a highly disturbing element. It is to be regretted that they should have been encouraged to try their luck in a land at once so distant from the Central Kingdom and so unlike it in the general conditions under which the masses live. It is stated that the agreement under which the Chinese have been engaged to go to the Rand stipulates that they shall live separately from the other workmen, and shall be worked in gangs in different parts of the mines from the natives. This arrangement would, no doubt, serve at first to avert collisions and would so far have its advantages, but they would not prove of an enduring nature. Sooner or later the races will come into conflict, and if not into conflict they will learn each others' vices and mutually deteriorate. The Chinese quarters in San Francisco and New York are practically separate from the white population, but the fact does not keep the races apart. Moreover, there are some disadvantages in allowing Chinese slums to grow up in a new country; it would, for sanitary reasons, be better if the Chinese had to live under the same conditions as the rest of the people. If by any chance plague should creep in with the Chinese immigrants great will be the wail in South Africa, and loud the anathemas that will be heaped upon the persons responsible for introducing them. As we have always said, there are special fields where Chinese labour is most acceptable and where the coolie thrives exceedingly; but it is a mistake for him to go so far afield as South Africa, where there is a large aboriginal coloured population, and where his labour also may come into competition with that of the Caucasian settlers.

Whilst the labour market is badly supplied the competition will not be felt, but so soon as the supply becomes in excess of, or even equal to the demand, then the trouble will begin.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

(Daily Press, 26th June)

The New York correspondent of the *Times* wrote last month describing how amid the exhilarating air of the Pacific coast President ROOSEVELT had twice within two days proclaimed the future dominance (and not only commercial dominance) of the United States over the Pacific Ocean; the correspondent added that "it need not be supposed that the President had any other public in his mind than that which he was addressing." The suggestion is, of course, that President ROOSEVELT spoke with his eye on the forthcoming elections; and so no doubt he did. Yet we cannot but hear more in the triumphant utterances of the President of the United States than mere vote-catching verbiage. Naturally he was bound to tell the Pacific coast electors that he was a believer in the coming supremacy of their country in that greatest of oceans whereby they live. But there was a ring of real confidence in President ROOSEVELT's language which forbids us to think he was only electioneering. When he told the people of San Francisco last month that he failed to see how a man confident of his country's greatness could be anything but an expansionist and that the United States must, unless they are to become degenerate, go on with the work which they have begun, he was obviously speaking in all sincerity, and the enthusiasm of his audience was not a matter for wonder. We need not, however, necessarily admit that because President ROOSEVELT spoke from his heart he is therefore a certain prophet. He claimed that the United States' geographical position on the Pacific is such as to insure their peaceful domination of its waters in the future, if only the nation grasps with sufficient resolution the advantages of this position. They are taking long strides in this direction, he went on; witness the new cables, the great steamship lines, the first steps toward digging an Isthmian canal—a canal which will make the Atlantic and the Pacific coast-lines of the United States to all intents and purposes continuous, and will add immensely alike to the commercial and the military and naval strengths of the country. All this is not to be denied, but in speaking of the "domination of the Pacific" by the States the President is a little vague. The Pacific Ocean is, as President ROOSEVELT said, the greatest of all oceans, and the States have an extent of coast-line which makes the Republic of necessity a Power of the first class on that Ocean. Nevertheless, it must not be forgotten that Great Britain has, in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, and the majority of the Southern Pacific isles, Hongkong and the Straits Settlements, a position which can become second to none as long as we have the most powerful fleet in the world. Therefore, unless we accept as inevitable the growth of the United States navy beyond all possibility of our competition—which is, to say the least of it, a remote contingency at present—we cannot admit President ROOSEVELT's contention that the United States are marked out definitely as the lords of the Pacific. The opening of the Isthmian canal and the increase in their fleet, which the President urges on his countrymen, will doubtless make a vast difference in the situation.

But, on the other hand, the aspirations of Canada in the North-east and of Australia in the South-west are factors which it is equally impossible to disregard. Alarmists at home have cried out that American competition has already shaken Britain's commercial position all over the world; but an examination of the figures fails to sustain their arguments. Similarly British writers have spoken of the Pacific question as if all pointed to a speedy predominance of the United States; but they have failed to produce solid proofs. We do not think the subject a very profitable ground for speculation. There can be no doubt that the next century will see a great advance of United States interests in those waters of which the westernmost wash our island of Hongkong. But this is a different thing from the relegation of Great Britain to a secondary place in the Pacific. We do not think that the progress of the United States need militate seriously against British interests in this ocean. There is not but the remotest likelihood of the whole of the Pacific coming under one supreme influence. In parts, no doubt, the United States will predominate. In others, and these by no means the least important, Britain must continue supreme unless a sudden catastrophe reduces her from the rank which she now holds among the Powers. The Pacific Ocean, however, is large enough for more than two Powers, reasonable aspirations, and we have fortunately no reason to apprehend other than friendly rivalry between Great Britain and the United States in these waters. The patriotic expressions of an inhabitant of either empire should not be able to do injury to the harmony prevailing between the two nations.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S SCHEME.

(Daily Press, 22nd June.)

One marked source of weakness in the present style of administration of government in England is the marked prominence given to party words concocted on the spur of the moment, and supposed to contain within themselves the kernel of a policy. In China we are suffering from the after-effects of a policy of *laissez faire*, which can, not indistinctly, be traced to the unfortunate adoption by the party in office of a chance aphorism of Lord SALISBURY, "the Open Door." In the beginning, Lord SALISBURY intended to express something very definite, and the policy of the Open Door did mean something which at the time was advisable and practical. Times and conditions change, but these party cries have a dangerous habit of outliving their utility, and so are apt to become sources of detriment, or at best of inaction on the part of those with whom they once stood as a witness of energy. So too Lord ROSEBURY's aphorism of the "Clean Slate" has within little less than a twelvemonth come to express a policy on the part of the Opposition very different from the sense in which its author intended it should be employed, and it has certainly not been conducive to the higher estimation of the leaders of the party by whom it was adopted as the quintessence of political acumen. Seen in this light, we must express our unqualified condemnation of the last of these apparently innocent apophthegms—that of Lord GOSCHEN with regard to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's suggested financial policy of the future. Lord GOSCHEN has, in fact, ventured into waters too deep for his stature, however commanding. He is doubtless a conscientious free-trader, but so

is every prominent statesman of the day in England, with the possible exception of Mr. CHAPLIN; the phrase which he used—of "gambling with the food of the people"—is one that would strike at the root of all commerce, whether carried on free-trade or protectionist lines. None knows better than he that every important operation, be it fiscal, commercial or political, in its very essence partakes of the nature of "gambling," and as the food of the people constitutes the life's blood of the commerce of the people, so is it in its very essence from day to day the most subject to the imputation of gambling. The very name by which our great merchants were, three centuries ago, proud to distinguish themselves is an indication of the fact of the large part played by chance in every merchant venture. In the new sense in which Lord GOSCHEN chooses to stigmatise the suggestions of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN as "gambling," CORDEN and Sir ROBERT PEEL were the greatest gamblers of the age, and the great Budget of Sir ROBERT PEEL, which has dominated the course of British finance from that to this, was the greatest piece of gambling of modern times. Doubtless, now that this latest champion of freedom of trade has had time to reflect, he has seen that his hasty argument may be made to cut both ways.

In one sense no reform, however advantageous to the country at large, but has been followed by consequences unforeseen by its author, how sapient however may have been his reasoning; and Free Trade is no exception to the rule. One of the undoubted results of Free Trade and open competition has been that a large extent of land, which under altered conditions could not be worked at a profit, has been thrown out of cultivation; and though from a merely commercial standpoint this has been no disadvantage to the country at large, which has distinctly gained by the cheaper rate at which food-stuffs have been obtainable in other quarters, there are political disadvantages inseparable from such a condition of affairs. One of the chief of these is that owing to political complications abroad there may arise difficulties in procuring a regular supply, and so the country may be momentarily placed in a state of siege by the action of one or more foreign Powers conspiring together to cut off the necessary supplies. Of late the possibility of such a condition has forced itself unpleasantly on the mind of the nation, and the question has been asked, Is it good that a nation desirous of occupying itself with the affairs of the world should find itself hampered with a prospect of having to surrender at discretion without the opportunity of striking a blow in self-defence? The affair is reduced almost to absurdity when we take into consideration that within the limits of our own Empire there is sufficient to feed not only the entire of the homelands, but to leave an enormous margin besides. A rule such as would have to be called into existence to meet such a demand is not the work of a day; and it is a fair subject of consideration whether on the whole a slight increase on our present light burdens by way of insurance would not be wise on our part. On the subject whether it would or not we are not going to dogmatise; the matter is a wide one, and must be fought out on its merits. A far wider range of subjects than the mere abstract question of Free Trade is here at issue; it may even be that the whole question of the continuance of empire rests on our decision. It is not at the moment a matter of life or death, but we know not

how soon it may assume an importance at present undreamt of. This is all; we take it, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN meant by bringing the subject forward in the present conjunction of affairs. At all events the subject of food-supply in case of war has impressed itself sufficiently seriously on the public conscience to call for the appointment of a Royal Commission; Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's proposals, however startling they may at the moment appear, are but a natural corollary to the problem, and as such are deserving of the widest and freest discussion. The matter is of far wider import than the academic question of the merits and demerits of Free Trade and Protection; and involves subjects of the highest possible politics of Empire.

MEDICAL MEN ON STEAMERS.

(Daily Press, 20th June.)

On Thursday afternoon there was laid before the Sanitary Board the reply of the Government to an enquiry addressed to it on the 26th April last, with reference to Chinese travellers between here and Canton or Macao and recalling Professor SIMPSON's recommendation of the carriage of a medical man on the steamers, native and European, passing between Hongkong and the two ports mentioned. The Government's reply as regards the latter point was that it had been decided not to enforce the carrying of doctors, "as it was not clear what good would result thereby." It is useful to read again Professor SIMPSON's actual words, taken from the section of his report which dealt with remedial measures against plague. "It is requisite for the Government of Hongkong to be in possession of information as to the existence of plague in those parts of China with which the Colony is most intimately connected, commercially and socially, in order that the ordinary measures of precaution may be taken against importation of the disease. This protection may be afforded, not by quarantine, which is ineffective and a costly disturbance to trade, but by a supervision at the most dangerous period of the year over the junks and steamers trading with infected districts, and insisting on the large steamers, native and European, which carry hundreds of passengers daily to and fro between Canton and Hongkong, and between Macao and Hongkong, having a surgeon on board at the companies' expense to report those that are sick with plague and other infectious diseases, the alternative being a medical inspection before the steamer communicates with the shore, a mode of procedure which causes much delay and inconvenience, and should be avoided if possible." Professor SIMPSON proceeds, in the next paragraph:—"Though neither medical surveillance nor quarantine is feasible in Hongkong, yet it is not advisable to dispense with all precautions having for their object the protection of the Colony from the importation of plague. Thousands of immigrants coming from infected localities arrive in the Colony, and are permitted to take up their residence without any precaution to screen out those that may be infected. The same may be said of other passengers coming from Canton and its neighbourhood, the West River and delta, and other infected centres in the provinces not far from Hongkong. These dangers require to be met." Again, in the next paragraph of his report Professor SIMPSON remarks, quoting from a previous memorandum of the 20th March:—"I am further of opinion that the Canton steamers—

"native and European—should, during the first six months of the year, carry at their companies' own expense a medical man, who might be a Chinese graduate, educated at the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, to examine the Chinese passengers en route and report to the boarding officers." Yet again, in the same paragraph Professor SIMPSON says:—"It is not in regard to plague alone that the Colony is exposed to outside infection. In the annual report for 1896, Dr. CLARK, Medical Officer of Health, points out that exclusive of plague fifty per cent. of the cases of infectious disease in the Colony in that year were imported by the shipping, few having been detected until after they had come under the care of a resident practitioner. Every year similar instances can be cited."

Nevertheless, the Government in its reply to the Sanitary Board's enquiry remarks that it is not clear what good would result from the enforced carrying of doctors on the Canton and Macao steamers. It seems to us that this is treating Professor SIMPSON's authority with scant courtesy, and that some further explanation is due as to why so strong a recommendation, made by an expert specially brought out from England to suggest remedial measures, should be entirely neglected. The first six months of this year, the dangerous period for plague, are nearly over. But before another year begins we are certainly of opinion that the Government should furnish some justification for its attitude on this important point.

THE PUNJAB PLAGUE EXPERIMENT.

(Daily Press, 22nd June.)

We wrote some time ago mentioning the interest which was felt in all places afflicted with visitations of plague, in the great scheme of the Punjab Government for inoculating something like ten millions of people against plague during the months September-January last. The inoculation was to be entirely voluntary, and the whole medical staff of the Punjab, assisted by five members of the Indian Medical Service from other parts of India and by thirty-seven medical officers specially brought out from England, was to be concentrated on the work. The estimated cost of the scheme (which was devised by Sir CHARLES RIVAZ, a thorough supporter of the theory that inoculation is the one measure against plague) was between eight and nine lakhs of rupees. As is well known now, this gigantic undertaking was commenced in most favourable circumstances, considering the difficulties of the task, and went successfully until seven months ago, when a great catastrophe occurred which doomed the scheme entirely. The Allahabad Pioneer in a recent issue describes how the campaign was so ably directed and so carefully supervised that during the first three weeks, that is, from the middle of October onward, nearly 200,000 people were inoculated, and moreover, the figures were swelling in volume daily. Then, on the 9th November, came the regrettable and still unexplained accident at Mulakwal, and from that time the inoculation campaign was virtually at an end. It is true, our contemporary says, that during the six months which have since elapsed, about 300,000 more inoculations were still performed, but this is less than would have been done in a month at the rate of starting, and the whole achievement represents only about four per cent. of the originally contemplated total. And the most painful sequel is that the

provincial plague mortality in the Punjab during six months has beaten even the record of the season 1901-02. It cannot be said whether there will ever be an explanation forthcoming of the cause of the Mulakwal accident—when the contamination of the inoculating fluid by some ingredient which should not have been there caused the death of so many patients and ruined the whole scheme of prophylaxis. As matters stand, only one comforting fact seems to have been elicited, and that is that, whereas the proportion of deaths to cases among the inoculated in the Punjab was only 25 per cent., among the non-inoculated it was 60 per cent. What the incidence of plague cases to total population is among the two classes respectively has not yet been ascertained, the Pioneer says, but the information should certainly be worth the pains of gathering it. It is with the utmost regret that all who are interested in the task of combating this most terrible scourge of plague must see the failure of the greatest scheme so far ventured on to check its ravages.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 22nd inst. in the Council Chamber.

Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, Kt. (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Dr. J. M. ATKINSON (Principal Civil Medical Officer).

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. R. SHEWAN.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 14 to 24) and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Report of the Finance Committee (No. 3) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

WATERWORKS AT TAIPO.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table the Report of the Public Works Committee (No. 1), which was in the following terms:—

"Water Supply for Quarters, Police Station, and Police Launches at Taiipo.—The Chairman laid before the Committee a proposal for obtaining a supply from a stream near Taiipo, at a point above the cultivated area bordering its course, and conveying the water in an open catchwater and in pipes to the island where the landing place is situated or on which it is intended to erect quarters. A branch pipe to be carried across the embankment forming the Taiipo Road for the supply of the Police Station and the existing temporary quarters. The estimated cost of the work was \$3,720. It was unanimously agreed to recommend that provision for the work be made in the Estimates for 1904. The Committee then adjourned."

PAPELS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the reports for 1902 of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, the Post Office, the Harbour Master, the Acting Registrar-General, the Po Loung Kik, the Superintendent of the

Fire Brigade, and the Government Bacteriologist; and the report on the health and sanitary condition of the Colony.

RATES AT MONGKOKTSUI.

The COLONIAL TREASURER moved the following resolution:—"Resolved that the percentage on the valuation of tenements, payable as rates, in the village of Mongkoktsui be altered from 10½ to 12½ per cent." The resolution, he said, was rendered necessary by the fact that Mongkoktsui is now practically part of Yaumati, and that the inhabitants are in enjoyment of nearly all of the privileges existing in Yaumati.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

QUESTIONS.

Hon. R. SHEWAN gave notice of the following questions:—

Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary be good enough to give the following information respecting the working of the Crown Agents system with regard to this Colony:

1. (a.) What method is adopted for paying the Crown Agents? (b.) Do the Crown Agents receive a commission on orders executed in addition to regular salaries? (c.) Do they receive remuneration from other Crown Colonies in addition to this?

2. What is the annual sum paid by the Colony to the Crown Agents during the past 3 years, giving salary and commissions separately, or what annual sum has been charged to the Colony for the services of the Crown Agents?

3. (a.) Are all orders for material, etc., sent to Europe on behalf of the Colony made through the Crown Agents? (b.) If not, what system is adopted with regard to such orders which are not executed by Crown Agents?

4. (a.) What system is adopted to ensure that orders on behalf of the Colony are executed by the firm best able to carry out the work at the most reasonable price? (b.) If orders are put up to tender only for those firms on the Crown Agents' lists, how are these firms selected? (c.) Can any reputable firm on application be placed on the Crown Agents' lists, or do the Crown Agents exercise a right to refuse to place a firm on their list? (d.) In the event of such a refusal, has the firm thus rejected any right of appeal and if so to whom?

Will the Government state whether they received a letter from the Secretary of the Sanitary Board sent by direction of the President, conveying the following resolution unanimously adopted at the meeting of property-owners at the Sanitary Board office on 18th May, convened by advertisement in European newspapers in the Colony. Namely:—"That the permission of H. E. the Governor be obtained to have the report, which was read by Dr. Pearse at the meeting on the subject of overcrowding and its abatement, printed and circulated amongst the European land-owners in the Colony."

No. 2. If so, has any reply been sent thereto? If not, why not?

No. 3. Is the Government aware that the President of the Sanitary Board stated at the Board on 19th inst. that no answer had been received to that letter, but that the report had been laid on the table and was accessible to the Press if they wanted it?

No. 4. Do the Government propose to print and circulate Dr. Pearse's report in terms of the resolution? Or is it true, as rumoured, that the report has been withdrawn from circulation? and that the information which has been placed at the disposal of the Chinese will not be available for European land-owners?

No. 5. Do the Government approve of the request of the Chairman that the Europeans should leave the meeting of land-owners above referred to?

Will the Government instruct the Government Printers to print a larger number of copies of Ordinances, as it appears that the Passenger Act (No. 1 of 1899, Chinese Consolidation Ordinance) is now out of print and cannot be supplied.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were submitted and read a first time:—A Bill entitled an Ordinance to repeal The New Territories Rent Recovery Ordinance; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend The Holidays Ordinance, 1875 (No. 6 of 1875); a Bill entitled an Ordinance to give effect to an Order in Council made by His Majesty the King on the 12th day of March,

1903, relating to the Marriages of British Subjects in Foreign Countries; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise and regulate the establishment and use of installations for the purpose of Wireless Telegraphy; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Malay States (Fugitive Criminals) Current Ordinance, 1903.

STOWAWAYS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the more effectual prevention of frauds on owners and charterers of ship by stowaways, their aiders and abettors. He said—Hon. members of the Council are aware of the events that have led to the introduction of this Bill. The subject of the Bill and the reasons for its being introduced are as set forth in the memorandum which I have attached to the Bill itself. The Bill has been in the hands of hon. members for a considerable time now and I have no doubt they have made themselves acquainted with what the Government considered to justify the passage of this Bill. As I have stated in the objects and reasons the Ordinance is drastic in its provisions, but to be effective I think you will agree with me it is necessary that the Ordinance should be drastic. It is reduced now to this shape in the hope that it will put an end to the nuisance that has been for a long time inflicted upon shipowners by persons stowing away on their ships. The nuisance has been felt particularly by those trading between Hongkong and the Philippine Islands; and in one case, which is mentioned in the objects and reasons, a very heavy security, \$70,000 gold, was required from the owners of one of the steamers taking stowaways from here to the Philippines, because of the excess number of passengers carried. The owners protested that the excess number was not carried with their sanction or knowledge, but were stowaways. Under the law as it stands a fine of \$500 or in default of payment six months' imprisonment can be imposed on each stowaway, his aider and abettor; but it appears that that penalty, which at the first blush is severe has not been severe enough to stop the practice of stowing-away. It is believed indeed that the profits arising from the successful running of a cargo of stowaways make it worth while to run the chance of a fine of this amount. This Ordinance therefore proposes to invest the Magistrate with the power to impose a term of imprisonment in addition to a fine, and it is believed and hoped that the threat of imprisonment will deter those who at present are engaged in this what may be called nefarious practice.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council afterwards resolved itself into Committee and considered the Bill clause by clause. On resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.) presiding.

CIVIL HOSPITAL EXPENSES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,200 in aid of the item "Washing" under "Other Charges," Civil Hospital Vote.

The vote was agreed to.

TRAINING OF NULLAHS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$11,500 (Public Works Extraordinary) to meet the cost of training certain nullahs in the Western District.

The recommendation was approved.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$300 in aid of the vote Medical Departments, Other Charges, to meet cost of fixtures for the Victoria Hospital for Women and Children.

This vote was also approved.

P.W.D. EMOLUMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,392.21 in aid of the vote Personal Emoluments, Public Work Department:—Mr. Xavier is to draw sterling salary at the

rate of £850 rising to £480 by \$10 tentatively as from the 1st May, 1903.

The Committee passed the vote.

WATER ACCOUNTS CLERK.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,780.65 in aid of the vote for Personal Emoluments, Public Works Department:—Salary of the Water Accounts Clerk at \$1,800 per annum from 5th January to 31st December, \$1,780.65.

The CHAIRMAN—Members will recollect the complaints that were made about delay in the rendering of water accounts—hence this additional assistant.

The vote was agreed to.

STAMP OFFICE EMOLUMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,180.06 in aid of the vote for Personal Emoluments, Stamp Office, sub-department to Treasury:—Salary of an assistant to the shroffs at \$180 per annum from 5th May to 31st December, 1903, \$1,180.06.

The vote was approved.

COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES BY DISINFECTING.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$3,000 in aid of the Vote Sanitary Department, Other Charges (Lagu), to meet the cost of compensation for damage done in disinfecting premises.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART—By whom are these damages assessed?

The CHAIRMAN—By the Standing Committee of the Sanitary Board.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART—Is this a vote on account, or is it the exact sum required?

The CHAIRMAN—Compensation to the extent of \$1,200 has already been awarded, and it is calculated that this sum will probably suffice for the epidemic now happily drawing to a close.

The recommendation was adopted.

P.W.D. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote the sum of \$3,493.35 being equivalent to £29,123 at 1.8 in aid of the vote for Personal Emoluments, Public Works Department:—Salary of additional Executive Engineer (Mr. A. G. Fisher promoted) at £450 per annum from 23rd May to 31st December, 1903, \$3,493.35.

The vote was agreed to.

X-RAY APPARATUS.

The Governor recommended the Council to re-vote the sum of \$1,050 unexpended in 1902, and to vote an additional sum of \$15.64, making a total of \$1,065.64, for payment for the X-ray Apparatus and Microscope under Other Charges, Civil Hospital, Medical Departments.

The vote was approved of.

POST OFFICE AT SHANGHAI.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$375 in aid of the item "Repairs to Post Office at Shanghai" under Other Charges, General Post Office.

This vote also was agreed to.

COMPENSATION TO LANDLORDS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$2,288 for the payment of compensation to the owners of certain land in the New Territories, resumed by the Government for a public purpose.

The CHAIRMAN—This land is situated in the immediate vicinity of Shataukok Police Station, and its resumption was recommended by the medical authorities to improve the health of the occupants of the Police Station.

The vote was agreed to.

This was all the business.

The *Kobe Chronicle* announces the death of a gentleman who was probably the oldest foreign resident in Japan—Mr. J. F. Mitchell—the sad event taking place at his residence at Kobe, early on the 11th ult. Mr. Mitchell, who was seventy-five years of age, and a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, went to Japan as early as December, 1858, as a shipbuilder.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Uruga Dock Co. was held in Tokyo on the 5th inst. when Mr. G. Hayazaki, a retired Rear Admiral of the Japanese Imperial Navy, was appointed President of the Company vice Mr. Tsukahara, who recently resigned in connection with the damaging disclosures regarding the construction of revenue cruisers for the Philippines.

CHINESE LABOUR FOR THE RAND.

A MISSION OF ENQUIRY.

While the Transvaal authorities are discussing whether or no Asiatic labour is to be permitted into the Rand mines and while the whole of the British Empire is looking on with interest to see what the outcome is to be, the mine-owners themselves have taken time by the forelock and have already set about a mission of enquiry as to the suitability or otherwise of the Chinese for the working and development of the immense gold-fields of South Africa. The Transvaal Government have not yet made the admission of Asiatic workmen possible. They may or they may not. Should the available Kaffir labour prove sufficient to meet requirements there will probably be no call for the introduction of Orientals. But merely in case more labour is wanted than can be got locally, the mine-owners have taken tentative steps with a view to ascertain if the importation of Chinese labour would suit their purposes and to cover the contingency should it arise.

There is at present staying in Hongkong Mr. H. Ross Skinner, who has charge of several mines in South Africa and at present of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, associated with the Transvaal Chamber of Mines, who has been authorised to undertake this mission of enquiry in California and China. Mr. Skinner has just come from California, where he has made a study of the conditions under which the Chinese are engaged in mining there. In California as elsewhere, the Chinese give every satisfaction as workmen. Now Mr. Skinner has come to China to pursue his enquiries as to the possible procurement of yellow labour. After completing his mission by visiting the coast ports he will return to the Transvaal to report to his principals.

It may be said, broadly speaking, that nowhere has Chinese labour been introduced into a country without hostility on the part of its inhabitants. The attitude of hostility is not hard to understand. John Chinaman, the miner, was able to compete with the people of any nation as a workman; and his capability of living literally on a few handfuls of rice a day made his labour so cheap as to leave his white competitor hopelessly behind in the race. In Australia and in America he is now surrounded by restrictive laws, and there is little likelihood that any other country will allow the Yellow Race to enter into unrestricted competition with its own people where labour is plentiful. But that is just where the case of the Transvaal fits in. There they have not a plentiful supply of unskilled labour. The supply is totally inadequate at present. In the review prepared for Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Milner by the Witwatersrand Chamber of Mines it was stated that "The great problem is the obtaining of an abundant coloured labour supply. In the solution of this problem the Chamber asks for support and encouragement from the Government, feeling that on its proper solution depends not only the dividends of the mines, but the welfare of the whole country." The immensity of the present mines and their still more immense potentialities are but little realised except by those on the spot. It is essential for their development that unskilled labour should be secured. Kaffir labour to a certain extent is obtainable, it is true; but will it be sufficient? There seem to be no two opinions as to the superiority of the Chinese over the darker-skinned aborigines; and setting aside race prejudices there can be no objection to the importation of the better material if it is done in such a manner as to conserve the privileges of the former. One need only point to the Federated Malay States to bear out the proposition. That country owes its flourishing position to-day to its exploitation by Chinese. The more virile race has made where the decadent Malays marred.

Kept within certain lines of restriction, it is the opinion of the Rand mine-owners that the Chinese would do for the Transvaal all that, and more than, they have done for the Federated States. When the Pacific coast of America was in a panic about the possible repeal of the U. S. Chinese Exclusion Act,

alarmist pictures were drawn of shipload after shipload of pig-tailed Crienta's being dumped down promiscuously at every port on the sea-board to overrun the country and drive white labour out. Such pictures have been conjured up by imaginative writers in South Africa and in England. Chinese in countless thousands would swamp the labour market of the Rand, if once the thin edge was inserted, they said. But the Rand mine-owners have no thought of introducing any wedge. They need coloured labour and they want it good and plenty of it. It may be that the native supply will not suffice. Naturally their eyes turn to China. Of course it has to be understood that the laws of South Africa do not permit of the wholesale importation of workmen. But in the event of the mines requiring them, the Transvaal Mines are quite prepared to consider the admission of Chinese; and the well-considered scheme which they should be able to lay before the Legislature would doubtlessly commend itself as safe and sound. Under it the Chinese immigrants would be bound under indentures for periods of three or five years to work in the mines, and that for certain classes of work to be clearly specified. They would be shipped from China, serve their term, and at the end of it be shipped back to China. While in South Africa they would be well treated, well housed and well paid, and each one could count upon returning to his native country with £6 or £80 in his belt. Their labour would lead to still greater development of the gold-fields, interfering with no other labour and necessitating the employment of larger numbers of white foremen, and they would work in mines set apart for them away from the other coloured workers. This at least is the view of the promoters of the scheme.

It is remarkable that in this movement one of the chief factors to be taken into consideration by the owners is the question whether Chinese could be prevailed upon to go over in the large numbers which may possibly be required; but should the importation of the Yellow Race ever be authorised it is expected that the treatment meted out to the first-comers and the advantageous conditions under which they would work and live would soon come to be bruied abroad in China and that these would impel the Chinese miners to advise their nationals to follow in their footsteps and participate in the good things they had found in the Rand.

HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

During the week ended 27th June there were 52 cases of plague (2 Europeans, 1 Indian, 1 Portuguese, 48 Chinese) and 47 deaths (1 Indian, 1 Portuguese, 45 Chinese). Two Chinese died of cholera during the same period.

An analysis of the year's figures shows that from 1st January till the 27th inst. there were 1,274 cases of plague distributed as follows—35 Europeans, 1,167 Chinese, and 72 other Asiatics. The deaths numbered 1,121, namely 4 Europeans, 1,084 Chinese, and 33 other Asiatics.

During the week ended 27th June there were 54 cases of plague (3 Europeans, 12 Portuguese from the P. & O. ss. *Ballaarat*, 1 Parsee, 1 Indian, 35 Chinese), and 32 deaths (1 Indian, 31 Chinese). The European cases came from the Central Police Station, from 14, Morrison Hill Road, and from H. M. S. *Espergle*—the patient being James Collins, an A.B. The epidemic is now distinctly on the wane, and when the twelve imported cases from the *Ballaarat* and one from the *Anping Maru* are deducted, the total for the period under review really stands at 41. That for the year is 1,276.

At the Interport Regatta at Kobe on the 6th inst., Yokohama won the Fours (Kobe being fouled by a fishing-boat). Pairs, and Double Sculls, Kobe only managed to win the sailing race.

The Ceylon Volunteer Forces won their shooting match against the Singapore Volunteer Corps on the 13th inst. by 735 points to 712. Last year Singapore won. In this year's match the Ceylon average was over 90 per man and Singapore average 74. Bisley conditions were in force.

THE BUILDING OF THE NEW TRAMWAYS.

Though the inclement weather that has prevailed during the past few days does not conduce to rapidity of progress in the laying of the Colony's tram-lines in preparation for the advent of the electric car, for the rain puts a stop to labour, the work is making great strides, and already sections of the lines have been completed—one, for instance, from Murray Barracks to Wellington Barracks, and another at Happy Valley. The rails are laid in a concrete bed, the durability of which may serve as an object lesson to the Public Works Department that there really are some kinds of material which, when used in the construction of roads, do not suffer from the destructive action of the narrow-rimmed ricksha-wheel and the heavy rains of a tropical summer. The lines have a gauge of three feet six inches and when finished will run from east to west of the city mostly by way of the water-front. This will be the main line; a branch line will run up from Praya East to the Happy Valley. The cars, of which 26 will constitute the first complement—10 for Europeans and 16 for Chinese—will have no accommodation on top, although the plan of having seats on the roof has never met with objection at home and is one that might have been adopted with advantage in the case of cars destined for use in a hot climate such as that of Hongkong. They will be appropriately fitted up inside and have plenty of ventilation; sun-blinds, of course, will be provided. The generating station, carsheds, and offices will be situated at Bowington, Praya East, where operations on the site have already commenced. The machinery will be of modern type, and be under the care of qualified European engineers. The work generally is proceeding satisfactorily, and it is anticipated that in less than a year's time the whole of the line will be in working order. The section running to Happy Valley will, it is hoped, be ready in time for the Races next year.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held on Tuesday, 9th June, 1903, at 3.45 p.m. Present:—Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Mr. D. R. Law (Vice-Chairman), Messrs. C. Michelin, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, H. E. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood, Hon. R. Shewan (*ex officio*), and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of 15th April last and of the special meetings of 7th and 19th ultimo were read and passed.

BROKERAGES ON STOCKS AND SHARES.

The following correspondence was read:—

General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 21st April, 1903.

Sir,—I am directed to inform you that, at the monthly meeting of the General Committee of this Chamber, held on Wednesday last, a letter was read calling the Chamber's attention to the system followed by the sharebrokers of this Colony of charging brokerage to both buyer and seller, urging that such system precluded the broker from acting impartially for both parties, and suggesting that the brokerage should in future be limited to the seller.

The question was thoroughly discussed and the Committee being strongly of opinion that brokerage should be borne by the seller only, unanimously passed the following resolution:—"That this Chamber deprecates the custom of stock and share-brokers taking commission from both the buyer and the seller of shares and that the Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong be asked to arrange for brokerage to be charged to the seller only."

I am to add that the Committee expressed no desire to involve the sharebrokers in any loss on income as a result of the suggested change, which could be easily rectified by an alteration in the present scale of brokerage authorised by your Association, and they trust that your members will agree to carry into effect the above proposal.—I have, etc.,

A. R. LOWE, Secretary.

HON SECRETARY,
Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong.

Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong,
Hongkong, 22nd April, 1903.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your communication of yesterday's date, I beg to inform you that a meeting of the Standing Committee of this Association will be called at an early date to consider your proposition re brokerages.

In the meantime, to facilitate the matter, I shall feel obliged if you will favour me with any further reasons of your Chamber for desiring this change and the advantages it considers are to be derived therefrom, in order that I may lay them before my Committee for discussion.—Yours faithfully,

E. S. JOSEPH,
Actg. Hon. Secretary.

The SECRETARY,

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 29th April, 1903.

SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant informing this Chamber that a meeting of the Standing Committee of your Association will be called at an early date to consider the resolution on the subject of brokerage on shares transactions forwarded in my communication of the 21st instant and asking for any further reasons the Chamber may care to put forward in support of their contention.

In reply I am directed to inform you that my Committee consider that progress in this matter will be furthered if your Committee will first state the reasons for and against the proposition already before you.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.

HON SECRETARY,

Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong.

Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong,
Hongkong, 6th May, 1903.

SIR,—Yours of the 29th April to hand.

I now beg to inform you that the resolution of your Chamber on the subject of brokerage was laid before the Standing Committee, and was thoroughly discussed in all its aspects.

The result of the discussion was that the Committee were unanimous in arriving at the conclusion that the change you proposed would be detrimental to all parties concerned, the argument brought forward against the proposition being that the danger of partiality, on which you base your contention, would only be accentuated by the change, inasmuch as on the lines you suggest a broker might consider his duty was due more to the party from whom he received his commission, namely, the seller, than to the party, the buyer, from whom he received no brokerage, whereas at present it is the imperative duty of a broker receiving his commission from both sides to see, to the best of his ability, that both buyer and seller are treated with the greatest impartiality and in accordance with the ruling rates on the market.

There are other reasons against the change, but as you requested my Committee to confine themselves to the reason given in your letter, they were not brought forward.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

E. S. JOSEPH,
Act. Hon. Secretary.

The SECRETARY,

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
After some discussion it was decided to place on record the dissatisfaction of the Committee at the attitude taken up by the Stockbrokers' Association.

STORM-WARNINGS.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary dated 21st May, 1903.

21st May, 1903.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant and to inform you that in deference to the wishes of the Chamber, His Excellency the Governor has decided to introduce the flag system, as at Shanghai, for the information of shipmasters but without displacing the cone system at present in use, which in His Excellency's opinion as in that of his expert advisers is a better and safer system and is familiar to the local junk population.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY, Chamber of Commerce.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that although at the commencement of the agitation for an improved system of signalling the Chamber had suggested the institution of flag signals by day and lantern signals by night to afford every variety of weather information to the masters of vessels, the Government had objected to the adoption of any complicated or extensive system of flag signals on the ground that in the calm weather usually preceding typhoons such signals would often not be readily distinguishable. In 1902 the Committee had collected the views of the numerous shipmasters visiting the port and the Sub-Committee formed by representatives from the shipping offices of the P. & O. S. N. Co., Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Butterfield & Swire, and Melchers & Co., to investigate the matter had reported in favour of an extended symbol system and had drawn up a code of 37 day and 10 night signals for use with suggestions for its further extension if found necessary, which would be more economical, easier to work and better understood by land-men.

After discussing the matter it was decided to ask the Government to reconsider their decision to adopt the flag system and also to enquire what steps the Government proposed to take with regard to the other suggestions contained in the Sub-Committee's Report.

OFFICIAL CODE VOCABULARY.

The following letter was read with reference to an appeal received from New York Chamber to support their objection to the compulsory use of the Official Code Vocabulary:—

14th May, 1903.

SIR.—Your letter of 7th January last, intimating that my letter to you of the 5th December, 1902, on the subject of the "Official Code Vocabulary" would receive early attention, was duly received.

I have now to confirm translation of my wire to you of the 12th instant, coded by and sent through the courtesy of the Peninsular and Oriental S. N. Co. as follows:—"Referring to letter of 5th December Hongkong Chamber of Commerce support New York Chamber of Commerce Resolutions 2nd April request you on our behalf forward protest against Official Cable Code to General Post Office London for presentation International Telegraph Conference. The next meeting is fixed for London, 26th May.—Lowe, Secretary."

I enclose copy of the resolutions of the New York Chamber referred to above, though you will doubtless have already received a copy of these from that body. As this Chamber has recently been in communication with you with the object of obtaining your support to the objections to the code, it will now be sufficient to state that my Committee have always been strongly opposed to the compulsory use of this Official Code on the grounds that great expense and inconveniences will be entailed on the mercantile community through the necessary amendment of existing codes.

The latest edition of the Official Code, although containing 1,173,100 words, is still incomplete and they trust that your Chamber will have seen its way to sympathise with the views of my Committee by forwarding a protest through the British Postal Authorities in order that the matter may be thoroughly ventilated at the forthcoming Conference.—I am, etc.,

A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.

The SECRETARY,

London Chamber of Commerce.

The CHAIRMAN said that no information was yet to hand as to the decision adopted at the Conference held on 26th ultimo.

CABLE RATES.

The CHAIRMAN added that the Committee would note with a certain amount of satisfaction that the Joint Telegraph Companies had seen fit to reduce their rates between Hongkong and Australasia from 35 per cent. to 40 per cent. in some cases, leaving out their intentions intimated in a letter to the Chamber of 24th March, 1902. It would also have been noticed that the Chairman of the Great Northern Company had recently informed the shareholders of that Company that the present rates for Far Eastern traffic were rather high and that they were on the eve of some very considerable tariff reductions, the extent of which will only be determined at the International Telegraph Conference Meeting in London.

THE MARKET REPORT AND MR. E. C. RAY.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Vice-Chairman had persuaded Mr. E. C. Ray to continue supplying the Freight and Shipping paragraph in the Chamber's Fortnightly Market Report, which the latter had asked to be relieved of. The Committee's best thanks are due to Mr. Ray for continuing to furnish this special information, which he had so ably imparted without recompense during the past 20 years, and also to the Vice-Chairman for arranging the matter.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO DIPLOMATIC BODY

AT PEKING ON THE CURRENCY

QUESTION.

A letter was received from the Tientsin Chamber, dated 25th ultimo, stating that it had under consideration the drafting of a Memorial to the Diplomatic Body in Peking on the subject of the instability of exchange and its disastrous effects on the trade of the country. It was stated that there was good reason to believe that the Chinese Government was taking action and it was believed that some assistance might be rendered to the Government, and greater prominence given to the imperative necessity for a remedy being found by a joint Memorial from the Hongkong, Shanghai and Tientsin Chambers.

It was decided to ask for a draft of the Memorial and mention that this Chamber could not see its way at present to subscribe to the proposed joint Memorial, as it would probably be necessary for the Committee concerned to discuss very fully the terms of the actual Memorial and whilst the Committee had every wish to assist the Chinese Government in any way possible with the object of putting an end to the instability of exchange, the Committee were of opinion that the first step towards a solution of this complicated question is the establishment of a uniform national currency as provided for in Article II of the British Commercial Treaty of Shanghai, of 1901 and it appears therefore that their efforts should, in the first place, be directed to attaining this end, as until reform in this direction has been carried out it will not be possible, in their opinion, to satisfactorily deal with the question of stability of exchange in China.

CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

The CHAIRMAN said that although the Chamber had intimated that they hoped to be able to send a delegate so far there was no one able and willing to represent the Chamber at the forthcoming Congress at Montreal on 17th August next and the Chamber was therefore not putting forward any propositions. It would be remembered that at the last Conference in London in 1900 resolutions were put forward dealing with the navigation by foreign steamers of the inland waters of China, the reduction of cable rates, and fresh marine surveys in Eastern seas.

THE COLOMBO CHAMBER AND THE CROWN AGENTS SYSTEM.

A letter on the subject of the disadvantages entailed through the Crown Agents System was read and discussion deferred until the next meeting.

NEW GENERAL CUSTOMS TARIFF OF GERMANY.

The copy of the new tariff, kindly forwarded by the Colonial Secretary, was laid on the table, together with a circular from the Board of Trade stating that no date had as yet been fixed for its entry into operation.

Ramie is said to have been successfully cultivated in South Sumatra, says the *Straits Times* in its Netherland India column. Two enterprising planters began with the experimental growing of the fibre in Siak, a district in East Sumatra. The experiment failed, but the experience gained showed the way how to succeed in better soil. That requirement was met in the Lampong districts—a neighbouring province. There the soil was found to be all that could be wished for. The ramie planted thrived in paying quantities, the fibre yielded being long and of excellent quality. The results at the outset proved to be so satisfactory that ramie-planting there has passed beyond the trial stage. The planters sent specimens of the fibre produced to experts in Europe who pronounced the product to be fully equal to Chinese ramie. The machine used is that invented by Faure, which of late has been so much altered for the better that the cleaning of ramie by this method can, it is said, be hardly improved upon.

HONGKONG'S HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION IN 1902.

From the report of the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer, on the Health and Sanitary Condition of Hongkong in 1902 we make the following extracts:—

POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Colony for 1902 was 311,824. There were 1,240 births and 6,783 deaths; of the latter 582 were from plague. The birth-rate was 3.8 per 1,000 as compared with 3.6 per 1,000 in 1901. The death-rate was 21.7 per 1,000 as compared with 23.5 per 1,000 in 1901. The following figures will show the comparison of the death-rate in the Chinese and non-Chinese during the past two years:—

	1901	1902
Non-Chinese	20.5 per 1,000	19.0 per 1,000
Chinese	23.77	21.93

GENERAL CHARACTER OF DISEASES PREVALENT.

Small-pox.—This disease was much less prevalent than in 1901, 57 cases only being notified during the year as against 91 in 1901. As usual most of these cases occurred in the early part of the year.

Cholera.—For the first time since 1888 cholera was again epidemic in the Colony. During the year, 46 cases were notified; over 30 of these occurred in the second quarter of the year. This disease appears to have been prevalent all over the East, the Philippine Islands especially having suffered. In all likelihood it was introduced to Hongkong from Canton.

Plague.—This disease was much less prevalent than during the previous four years, 572 cases only being notified as compared with 1,651 in 1901. The first cases occurred at Jardine's Bazaar at the East end of the town. A whole block of houses there was vacated and thoroughly disinfected, the rat-runs being filled up, &c. This principle of vacating infected blocks, cleansing them and rendering them rat-free was carried out during the year.

Rats.—Much more active measures were taken to exterminate rats. The number of rat-catchers was considerably increased early in the year and as a result 117,539 rats were destroyed during the year. The number of rats caught during the past three years is as follows:—

1900	43,593
1901	77,763
1902	117,539

Since March a systematic bacteriological examination has been made of all rats caught. The services of three Japanese doctors, versed in this work, were obtained from the Japanese Government for six months and since then work has been carried on by Chinese bacteriological assistants, specially trained by the Government Bacteriologist, who arrived in the Colony at the end of February. The result of the examination is interesting; at first in March only .03 per cent. of the rats caught were infected with plague. At the end of May the percentage of plague-infected rats was 5.6, this rose until the third week in July when it reached 7.8 per cent., since then it gradually fell until November when it was 1.7 per cent. Notwithstanding the fact that from September to the end of the year plague in man had practically ceased, plague-infected rats were still found, the percentage varying from 1.7 per cent. to 1.1 per cent. at the end of the year and then infected rats came from practically every health district in the Colony.

Haffkine's prophylactic.—The whole of the plague staff was inoculated with anti-plague serum and not a single case occurred amongst them. It was impossible, however, to induce Chinese generally to be inoculated.

Enteric Fever.—There were 55 cases as compared with 75 in 1901. These were equally distributed throughout the year, the numbers for the respective quarters being 16, 12, 12, and 15. Five of these were imported cases.

Malarial Fever.—There was a still further reduction in the number of deaths returned as amongst the Chinese from malarial fever, the figures for the last three years being 893 in 1901, 541 in 1902, and 837 in 1900. Anti-malarial measures, viz., removal of undergrowth, draining of nullahs and draining of stagnant pools, were continued during the year.

Beri-beri.—There were more deaths reported from this disease than in previous years, the numbers being 452 as against 277 in 1901 and 361 in 1900.

Dengue.—An extensive outbreak of this disease took place. Some fifty cases occurred in the autumn of the previous year, the disease evidently having been introduced from Singapore. Every section of the community was affected, over 400 cases having been admitted to the Government Civil Hospital alone. The earliest case occurred towards the end of June, it was prevalent in July, more prevalent in August, and commenced to decline in September with the onset of the cool weather, and in October it soon died out. Considerable inconvenience was caused commercially, as many firms employing large numbers of men had great difficulty at the height of the epidemic in obtaining workmen. It is to be hoped that this disease is not going to become endemic.

[Then follow tables showing the distribution over the different months of the year 1902 of the infectious diseases notified, and the relative mortality in the different seasons of the non-Chinese and Chinese populations.]

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION.

The sanitary condition of the Colony has been improved of late years, more especially by the provision of open spaces in the rear of buildings, thus doing away with back-to-back houses and introducing more light and ventilation to the Chinese dwellings. Much, however, remains to be done. Professor Simpson and Mr. Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., arrived in the early part of the year. Their reports conclusively show that overcrowding and many insanitary dwellings and areas exist. Mr. Chadwick states "I am further of opinion that nothing short of the general resumption of insanitary tenements, and their entire re-construction, will bring about any thorough improvement in the sanitary condition of Hongkong." The Legislature has introduced and passed a new Public Health and Buildings Bill which has consolidated and improved the various existing Public Health and Buildings Ordinances, and it is hoped and expected that this Bill will do much to further the better sanitation of this Colony.

[A table of vaccinations shows that 6,475 were performed during the year. 549 at the Government Civil Hospital, 5,973 at Victoria Gaol, 256 at the Alice Memorial & Netherlands Hospitals, and the rest by the Tung Wah.]

THE SITUATION IN PEKING.

The following is a translation of a private letter from a very well-informed Chinese official in Peking to a friend in Shanghai, dealing with the situation at the capital:—"Matters in Peking at the present moment seem to be even more hopeless than before. Although platitudes concerning reform in the government of the country are freely expressed by Ministers to outsiders, the fact remains that any sort of reform is heartily hated by those at the helm of affairs. According to persons attached to the Imperial Palaces, in spite of the fact that the Empress Dowager encourages social intercourse with members of the foreign Legations, the truth of the matter is that she is still filled with hatred against her guests and uses these social amenities merely to cloak her future designs on them. In outward appearance Her Majesty seems to be exceedingly earnest in her desire to strengthen towards China the friendship of the foreign representatives, and to do so gives banquets and bestows presents upon them, but her heart really entertains nothing but the bitterest of rancour against all foreigners. It vividly reminds one of her conduct in the summer of 1900, during the siege of the Legations, when she, on the one hand, sent gifts of water-melons and other fruit to the beleaguered garrison, while on the other, she poured in other presents in the shape of rifle bullets and cannon-shot. It is to be apprehended that this actual state of things is really unknown to the foreign representatives in the Legation. Now almost every one knows that the masses in these Northern provinces of the Empire are an uncouth and ignorant lot with whom it is difficult to reason, hence should the least thing untoward happen an immediate repetition of the horrors of 1900 can easily be imagined. Their Majesties pass their days enjoying themselves with witnessing theatricals and in eating

and drinking; they seem to care naught for the country or for the welfare of their subjects. When audiences are given to high officials, whether of the capital or of the provinces, the topics of conversation before the Throne are only unimportant, trivial matters. Should any one venture to touch upon such important matters as the government of the provinces, or on international relations, the countenance of the Empress Dowager becomes stern at once and her words are sharp. The culprit immediately finds himself neglected and he is then granted no more audiences. From what the writer of these lines can judge the present régime cannot become a guarantee of peace for much longer. The days of dissolution are hastening on and China is soon to become like Corea, nay, even worse than Corea if the present régime be allowed to last any longer. Believe me, the above has been the result of careful observation and deep study by me, and these are not the words of a hastily formed opinion, and it behoves foreigners to study the question also seriously and not be again caught napping as in 1900."—*N.C. Daily News*.

TRANS-SIBERIAN JOTTINGS.

The following interesting extracts, says the *N.C. Daily News*, are from a private letter written by a passenger homeward via Siberia in the train between Manchuria junction and Lake Baikal:—

N.B.—These notes pretend only to give the experiences of the particular journey by train of May 26th from Dalny. Conditions have hitherto changed every few weeks, and will doubtless continue to do so for some time. The first advice we would tender to travellers is therefore to mistrust everything you are told, especially by the various agents. To illustrate this I may mention that the existence of a new service of trains, inaugurated on 17th April, was unknown to various "agencies" in Peking and Tientsin on 16th May. The experiences of recent travellers are more useful, but here again the conditions may so change in a couple of months, that these also may be very misleading. This is what happened when I started. On arrival at Dalny I placed my baggage in the train and got the guard to lock the compartment. It was a first-class for two. Tickets could not be got until one hour before the departure of the train, which was timed to start at 11 p.m.

The tickets, first-class to Manchuria junction, cost Rs. 108 each; second-class tickets cost Rs. 67. One can book no further. On arrival at Manchuria one books through to Petersburg first-class—, second Rs. 115. It will be seen that the prices on the Chinese Eastern Railway are much higher than on the Russian State railway.

There was no difficulty at Dalny. The language difficulty is "all rot." Anyone can learn enough Russian in ten minutes to carry along with on this journey. The railway officials are obliging, the accommodation excellent. The days are over for taking the equipment of an up-country trip upon this route. The dining car is quite good. It adds possibly to one's comfort to have one's own whisky, and a tea-basket kills time as well as anything else, but neither can be called necessities now.

The *coupes* are spotlessly clean; so is the bedding. Good clean pillows are provided. No bedding need be brought, except the ordinary travelling rug. There is not much room for hand-baggage. Nothing can go under the seats. If I had to define what was "a lot of hand baggage" I should say "anything more than four pieces per man." But these four might all be large kit-bags. A number of small pieces are very difficult to keep track of when changing. One is allowed 36 lbs. per ticket fare in the van. A cabin trunk owned by a couple may therefore weigh 72 lbs. before it is penalised.

The trains run twice a week from Dalny, Tuesdays and Saturdays at 11 p.m. It is the only way to go home.

Japanese papers record that Mr. Ludwig Bischof, second son of Captain F. and Mr. Bischof, died at Kobe of consumption on the 14th inst., aged 19. He was a talented musician, and often assisted at concerts in Kobe.

THE LATE MR. RHODERICK CAMPBELL.

An inquest was held at the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 17th inst., before Mr. T. C. E. Douglas, Coroner, on the body of the late Mr. Rhoderick Campbell, when the following evidence was taken:—

Neil Macleod—I am a medical practitioner. I identify the body just seen as that of R. M. Campbell. To-day about noon I was summoned on the telephone by one of the sisters to the Hospital. When I arrived I found Mr. Campbell in *articulo mortis* on an ambulance within the hospital. He died within a minute of my arrival. Death was evidently due to a head injury. There was a penetrating bleeding wound on the side of the head above the right ear, and on the opposite side under the scalp could be felt what is probably a bullet. Sister Louise handed me a paper which she stated was found in Mr. Campbell's hand. The paper was in Mr. Campbell's handwriting and runs: "Get Dr. Macleod if you can at once. Tell him and ask him to go out to my house. If you telephone to my house, No. 293, only say I have met with an accident, but try and get Dr. Macleod to go out first. Don't telephone if you can help it. I don't want the news to burst on them."—*R. M. C.*

David Anderson—I am a leading stoker, 2nd class, on H.M.S. *Alacrity*. I am at present a patient in this Hospital. About twelve o'clock to-day, I was standing inside the courtyard at the bend of the path, facing the gateway, when I heard the report of a shot and looking out at the gate I saw a little smoke and a gentleman falling. I made a rush towards him and found him bleeding at the head. A note was found just by his hand by the side of the revolver, which was on the ground. The note and pistol are those produced. I picked up the revolver and hat and laid it under the trees, standing by so that no one could touch it. I summoned the nurses.

Frederick Anderson—I was well acquainted with the deceased and had business dealings with him in this town. I received a letter from him in his handwriting at about 12.5 this morning. On receipt of that I came at once to the General Hospital. The letter is purely about his business affairs and gives no adequate reason for what he has done.

A juror: If the letter does not express Mr. Campbell's intention, why did Mr. Anderson come here?

The Coroner: Because it contains other matter. It is the way the letter is expressed. It won't help you to any other conclusion than that which I think you cannot help coming to. You have heard all the evidence which I, as Coroner for this district, propose to call, relative to this matter. I think the matter is as plain as it can be and it is your duty to return a verdict of suicide. I leave it to you to express any opinion as to the state of deceased's mind, always having regard to the fact that it is the opinion of most people qualified to know that the act of self-destruction is always the act of an insane man.

The jury returned a verdict that deceased committed suicide while temporarily insane.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News* writes:—While improvements are going on in all the concessions, in none are they so manifest as in the Japanese concession. They have done and are doing an immense amount of filling, and so making healthy conditions over acres of what were recently standing pools of stagnant water, some of them eight and ten feet deep which filled the air with vile smells and were a continual menace to health. Extensive building operations are also in progress, all of which gives one the idea of business prosperity as he passes through this concession. They have a hospital, and a church of about 20 members organised in the middle of March (15th) by two delegates sent over by the Missionary Society of one of the churches to look up the Japanese Christians in China; and now a young man has been sent as Pastor, and also to study the Chinese language with reference to doing missionary work among the Chinese as well. Active steps are being taken for the erection of a church building, and it will be no matter of surprise if it is ready for use the coming winter.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 20th June.

THE NEW VICEROY.

Yesterday the 19th His Excellency the Viceroy Shun Chan-lin arrived at Canton and at 6 a.m. landed at the government wharf among a great multitude of civilians and officials, civil and military. A guard of honour was posted there to salute His Excellency. Accompanied by the officials he went into a temporary marshed to partake of tea and cakes, and thence to the Viceregal yamen, where he was received by the late Acting Viceroy Tak Sow, who handed over to him the seal of office. In the afternoon His Excellency made official calls upon all the high officials, Tak Sow, the provincial governor Li Hing-yun, the Tartar General Sow Low, and others. On the way to the Kwangchow prefecture a certain person went up to his chair and presented a petition, which turned out to be about a matter of debt. After the official calls His Excellency went to stay in the Canton College for the time being.

H.E. TAK SOW.

As regards His Excellency Tak Sow, the late Acting Viceroy, a word or two may be said. He is a very good and conscientious sort of an official, very mild and polite, but hardly fit for official business. He is weak and too old. During his tenure of office the official business was mostly done by his secretaries and writers. He is now awaiting the steamship *Kwang Li* to take him to Shanghai, and thence to Peking to be a Viceroy of Chow Tung, where he will have nothing to do but say prayers and see about the transport of rice to Peking.

KWANGSI.

It is said that the Kwangsi rebels have invaded Lingshan in Kwangtung, and General Li Ka-cheuk has been despatched to Linchow with soldiers to intercept them.

TIBET.

Ta-chien-lu, Tibetan border, 14th May.

THE PEOPLE EXCITED.

For several months past excitement among the people here has been on the increase because of persistent rumours regarding the political affairs in Tibet, and there is no doubt that very important changes are taking place now both on the Indian border and in Lhasa itself. It is firmly believed here that four or five years ago a secret agreement was made with Russia, whereby Tibet was practically made a protectorate of Russia, and the Tibetan mission to Russia is said to be a result of this agreement. It is also declared that one of the arguments used by Russia in favour of this move, was that in Russia they also worshipped the great Buddha, and were therefore of the same religion, and in proof of this, those who visited Russia were shown a large image of Buddha, and were thus convinced. Another rumour is, that the Talai Lama cast the King of Tibet [sic] in prison and took over the seals of government himself. This however so enraged the people that the King had to be liberated, but the Talai Lama kept the seals, and is now ruling with a high hand, so much so that the condition of the Chinese in Tibet is becoming quite unbearable. The King it is said has since died, and the Talai Lama is not looked upon as guiltless. There has also been serious trouble at Litang, ten days from here. Some fighting took place between the people and the priests there, and the Abbot of the monastery defied all interference by the Chinese, and was said to be supported by the Talai Lama at Lhasa, with whom he was in continual communication. This affair however is now settled, the Abbot had to flee to Tsantui, and the second head lama was made Abbot of the monastery, and to make things equal, the local Chinese official was dismissed. The most important rumour, however, is to the effect that negotiations between Tibet and the Indian Government have fallen through, and several thousand British troops have already crossed the border on their way to Lhasa. And the people here are most excited over a report, that the Tibetans have threatened, "if they are defeated by the British, they will kill every Chinese in Tibet, man, woman, and child."

The delay of the new Amban from Peking is also tending to confirm their belief in all these rumours, which is to some extent interfering with trade.—*Mercury*

CORRESPONDENCE.

PLAGUE AND THE USE OF SALT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 20th June.

SIR,—I find a very interesting paragraph in your "Scientific Miscellany" of 19th inst. During the first of the plague epidemic here, in 1894, I had the question frequently put to me by Chinese friends, "Mr. Smith, why do not Europeans get attacked by plague?" To which my reply invariably was, "Because they use salt when eating their meals!" This was a conclusion arrived at by me, as the large proportion of cholera contained in salt acted internally as a disinfectant.

Your paragraph above named, which says, "Capt. Ross, a young medical officer in India, has found that a certain bacteria attending a malignant disease develops only when the natural chlorine of the body falls below normal," seems to go far to confirm the conclusion I arrived at in 1894, although, strange to say, it is the first statement I have seen in print on the subject.

I now think it is worthy of much consideration and study, in the direction of proving whether there is anything in my "salt" theory, about plague. It is notorious that, in the East, native food tastes mawkish and insipid for want of salt seasoning, as any one who has been bold enough to partake of a Chinese feast can testify.—Yours, etc.,

J. GRANT SMITH.

BROKERS' COMMISSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 22nd June.

SIR,—The correspondence between the Chamber of Commerce and the Brokers' Association is certainly amusing, but I hardly think the general public want to see a discussion as to whether the brokers do not act impartially now; a change in the system of charging brokerage will not make them do so. I certainly think the right system is to charge the seller only, but if a change is made the chief point is to reduce the present exorbitant charges in the way of brokerage on some stocks.

In China Providents \$10 stock, 15 cents is charged on sale and purchase = 3 per cent.; National Banks \$27 stock, 50 cents = 4 per cent.; Douglas's \$40 stock, 50 cents = 2½ per cent.; Watkins \$8 stock 15 cents = 4 per cent.; Hongkong Electrics (new) \$7 stock, 10 cents = 3 per cent.

Why should we in Hongkong have to pay on some stocks 2 per cent. to 4 per cent. to a broker, when in other parts in the East the charge is 1 per cent. to the seller only on small stock and a small percentage on large stocks? A fair charge would be 1 per cent. commission to the seller on stocks to the value of \$50, ½ per cent. from \$50 to \$200, and ¼ per cent. on high values, and it is to be hoped that the Chamber of Commerce will take the matter up again and get it settled by a charge of a fair percentage on the turnover (to the seller). In the meantime my advice is invest in large stocks; it is far better, other things being equal, to buy and sell say 100 Doocks value about \$20,000 and pay \$100 brokerage than to buy and sell say 2,000 China Providents value about \$20,000 and pay \$600 brokerage.—Yours, etc.,

X.

UNCONQUERED SCOTLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 20th June.

SIR,—Being a Scotsman, I was amazed to read the following passage in the London letter of the *China Mail* this evening:—

"England has never sought to crush out of a conquered or annexed country the individual characteristics of its people and to merge it into one great race of absolute similarity, as has been so unsuccessfully tried by France, Germany, and Spain. and in this she has shown true wisdom,

* especially exemplified in the case of Scotland, which has retained all the old chivalry, hardiness and pluck which made them such dreaded foes in the long ago."

When, in the name of wonder, was Scotland conquered and annexed? When the Scottish James VI assumed the British Crown?

For pure unblushing effrontery and woful ignorance displayed, this pronouncement of the *Mail's* letter-writer is unparelleled. It is enough to arouse the choler of the most apathetic Scot—if there be such a thing as an apathetic Scot; and as for the effect it would have on such fervid patriots as the Rev Jacob Primmer and Mr. Theodore Napier—well, the white-heat of their wrath were sufficient to set the heather in a blaze from John o' Groat's to the Mull o' Galloway. And so we owe it to the English that they have not yet crushed out of us our national characteristics! The man who can write such trash is not well-enough informed to qualify for a Third Standard certificate, his ignorance of history is as obvious as his bump-tious impertinence is glaring, and he apparently adjudges the intellectual calibre of his readers to be of the lowest. At home such "gaps" as he has written would be laughed at; but here in Hongkong there are people of all nationalities who in ignorance may take his word for gospel, and it is with a view to prevent such a thing happening that I trouble you with this letter.—Yours, etc.,

AN UNSPEAKABLE SCOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 22nd June.

SIR,—I have read the letter which appeared in your issue of this morning by "An Unspeakable Scot" with amusement if not with instruction. Judging this person by his letter, it is difficult to escape from the conclusion that he is an exact prototype of the Scotchmen so accurately described in Mr. Crosland's instructive book.

The exact circumstances under which Scotland had the good fortune to be absorbed into the British realms have long since been forgotten by the average Englishman and it is not clear in what way the matter can be of interest nowadays to anybody or why it should have called forth the passionate and foolish letter referred to above.—Yours, etc.,

ENGLISHMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 23rd June.

SIR,—The absorption of Scotland into the "English realms" so vauntingly referred to by your correspondent "Englishman" is as inaccurate and misleading a way in which to state the actual position of matters as was the statement in the *Mail* which originally drew out my original protest. In 1603 what did the English Crown represent but England alone and an Ireland convulsed and in her death-throes? From the union of the Crowns can be traced the real rising-up of the British Empire. James VI of Scotland by means of Scottish settlers made Ulster the one bright spot in a country devastated by the English method of misrule. When the colonisation of new countries had to be undertaken it was from the loins of Scotland that the hardy pioneers were got. In Canada, in the East and the West Indies, in Australia, Scots have done more than their share of colonising work—opening up paths for more lethargic Southerners to tread, planting seed the fruits of which in all probability the English reap.

As for Mr. Crosland, no Scotsmen but laughed over and appreciated the sharpness of his invective and the acidity of his villification. His diatribes, however, might as well have been entitled "The Unspeakable Cockney" or "the Unspeakable Geordie." It would apply without serious alteration to either case. But Mr. Crosland is damned out of his own mouth. If "Englishman" will read his latest publication, *Lovely Woman*, I think he will agree with me in this. The man who wrote *Lovely Woman* is not competent to treat of any subject dispassionately and with that care which is required where the susceptibilities of a susceptible people are to be considered.—Yours, etc.,

AN UNSPEAKABLE SCOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 23rd June.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Englishman" misses the point altogether. No reference was made in the letter of "An Unspeakable Scot," so far as I read it, to the absorption or otherwise of Scotland into the "British realms." "Scot's" argument was that Scotland has never been conquered by England, and that contention no one who knows history will dispute. "Englishman" talks patronisingly of Scotland's "good fortune" in being absorbed into the afore mentioned "British realms," but surely he does not mean to imply that the union of the two Crowns was not just as desirable for England? To return, however, to "Englishman's" letter: Scotland has not been "absorbed." When he married his daughter to a Scottish prince, King Henry VII. declared that the greater power would absorb the lesser, meaning, presumably, that England would absorb Scotland; but with all respect to His Majesty and to his latter-day champion "Englishman," that absorption, so far as Scotland is concerned, has not taken place, and never will. Scotland is just as much a distinct nation to-day as she was when Robert the Bruce wore her crown, and the national characteristics of the Scottish people are every whit as pronounced; a journey through the Highlands of Scotland is sufficient to carry that conviction. There was no necessity for "Englishman's" egregious letter; "An Unspeakable Scot" simply pointed out an error that required immediate correction, and for his prompt upholding of the traditions of the land of the heath and the heather he has the thanks of—Yours, etc.,

ANOTHER UNSPEAKABLE SCOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th June.

SIR,—Those two Scots are becoming a little wearisome in their childishness. Really now, who but they would have noticed anything to raise such a polter about? However, seeing that the writer of the letter isn't here to defend himself from the terrible charges of his accusers I would like to call attention to a point that everybody appears to have overlooked. The *Mail's* correspondent says that "England has never sought to crush out of a conquered or annexed country," etc. And the Unspeakable one asks: "When was Scotland conquered and annexed?" He hasn't even taken the trouble to make sure of his thesis. And does he deny that Scotland is the junior partner to England? Would he pervert history as well as the *Mail's* paragraph?

Again he says: "And so we owe it to the English that they have not crushed out of us," etc. A man who argues on misrepresentations of this kind is hardly worth the answering.

As a matter of fact I am not quite sure that the *Mail's* correspondent is correct in saying that "England has never sought," etc. She has, once or twice, but found that it didn't pay. Have the Highlanders forgotten Glencoe, for instance? And again what caused the secession of the United States?

Let "Unspeakable Scots" hang their hats upon this peg, if they will; they have something tangible at any rate: but spare us from those who cry out before they are hurt. Even supposing that the *Mail's* correspondent had written as these Unspeakables represented, would John Bull in a similar case have risen in his wrath to pulverise his thoughtless opponent with undignified invective? The smaller the nation, physically and mentally, as with the man, the more noise he has to make to assert himself. I do not think that Scotland would have fallen in the world's estimation had these unspeakable champions never arisen.—Yours, etc.,

ANOTHER ENGLISHMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th June.

SIR,—"Englishman" and the "Unspeakable" ones should "Leave little dogs to bark and bite," etc., as we were taught in our youth. The British Nation consists of as many Englishmen as Scots, and surely it is unnecessary to try to prove that one (or both) has swallowed the other—like the Kilkenny cats! I wonder if the "Unspeakables" can inform me of what stock Robert Bruce came? I have just a "suspicion" that he was of Norman descent. Can this be true? I think it is a subject for

congratulation to the rest of the nation that some Scotch characteristics are strictly preserved north of the Tweed—may they always stop there! A "susceptible nation" should have a thought for the susceptibilities of others and not for ever try to ram down other people's throats the self-evident absurdity that the "Land o' Cakes" is the Hub of the Universe.—Yours, etc.,

PAX VOBISCUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th June.

SIR,—Scotchmen are notoriously lacking in sense of humour and judging from the correspondence which you have allowed to appear in your paper, it would also seem that they fail to realise when they are making themselves not only ridiculous but a nuisance.—Yours, etc.,

G. W. P.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th June.

SIR,—I was very much surprised and amused to find that "An Unspeakable Scot" has the hardihood to claim Ulster as an evidence of Scotch ability and industry. The only bright spot in Ireland is claimed as a product of the "loins" of Scotsmen. As an Ulsterman I take leave to protest against such a statement as a gross libel upon an innocent and inoffensive population. Heaven save us from any such paternity as that. "Unspeakable Scot" in the days of his youth when the "bawbees" were scarcer than they are now, probably took an excursion trip from Glasgow to Belfast, returning the same night, and probably came to the conclusion that Belfast was nothing more than a suburb of Glasgow. Now we Ulstermen have to confess that the coast counties of Antrim, Down and part of Derry, are occupied by people of Scotch ancestry, and also that Belfast, being in the former county, has a considerable (but by no means predominant) Scotch element. If however time and circumstances had permitted "Unspeakable Scot" to extend his pilgrimage a little further inland he would require a magnifying glass to have discovered the presence of the Scotch (beg pardon, *Scots*) microbe. The inland counties of Ulster (i.e. Armagh, Cavan, Fermanagh, Monaghan, and Tyrone) are almost entirely settled by people of English descent, except in such places as are found remnants of the original "Irishry." They have nearly all English names and are members of the Anglican Communion. Besides, "Unspeakable Scot" is a little wrong in his history. The idea of the "plantation" or colonisation of Ulster did not originate with that numskull, "James VI of Scotland," of whom he is so proud. It originated in the fertile brains of the statesmen who surrounded the English Queen, Elizabeth, and the first plantation took place in her reign, and consisted of English settlers exclusively. I know Scotsmen are famous for keeping the Sabbath day holy (and anything else they can conveniently lay hands on), but to lay hold of the fact of the prosperity and intelligence of Ulster and proclaim it as an evidence of what the "loins" of Scotland can do, is an unspeakable wrong which I trust you, Mr. Editor, will help me to right. It is a base calumny. Why, sir, Scotland was only *Scotia Minor*, when Ulster was *Scotia Major*. Let Unspeakable Scot put that in his pipe and smoke it, and ever hereafter hold his peace.—Yours, etc.,

ULSTERMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th June.

SIR,—What a storm in a teacup, truly! A misrepresentation of historical fact, a letter to correct it by a justly indignant Scot, and—the whole English camp is up in arms! What for? Do they deny that "Unspeakable Scot" is right? Do they assert that Scotland, "the junior partner," "the smaller nation, physically and mentally," was conquered. Havers! In a hopeless attempt to explain away the inaccuracy of the statement that first gave rise to the present discussion, "Another Englishman" places an entirely original construction on the grammatical significance of the offending paragraph, and "G.W.P." for want of originality, but thirsting to do battle on behalf of the Sassenachs, falls back on the old saw that Scotchmen lack the sense of humour.

Assertions like that, "G. W. P.," are ridiculous and irrelevant, but, *puir callant*, ye maybe ken nae better! The fact remains, ye English, that Scotland is an unconquered country, and as one of her sons I am able to subscribe myself—Yours, etc.,

AN UNCONQUERED SCOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th June.

SIR,—I am sorry to trouble you again with a continuance of this correspondence. But the persons who have written under this head, signing themselves by various *noms-de-plumes* deserve to be shown up. To start with the last first, "G.W.P." by the reversal of his initials shows the perversion of his view. If he descend to personal abuse let him understand that others beside him can sling mud, but gentlemanly they refrain. And assertion is not argument. "Pax Vobiscum" wonders why I did not take up another line of invective. As a matter of fact—O beloved Mesopotamia of his—I might as well have attacked the *Mail* writer on his ignorance of syntax. His grammar was villainous as "Pax Vobiscum's" argument was weak. As for Robert the Bruce and his Norman descent I wonder if "Englishman" ever heard of William the Conqueror. I think he was not only of Norman descent but a Norman of the Normans. "Another Englishman" is not worth considering. Probably his middle name starts with Mac and at any rate he writes like a renegade.—Yours, etc.,

UNSPEAKABLE SCOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 26th June.

SIR,—For blatant self-sufficiency commend me to "An Unconquered Scot" and his "brither Scots"! Your correspondent asks "Why the whole English camp is in arms"? Surely the reason must be apparent to all but the "dourdest" Scot. The original question as to whether Scotland was ever conquered is too childishly uninteresting to excite sufficient interest to call forth the indignation of "the other side." No, nothing but the irritating, swollen-headed bumpiness of the "Unspeakables" could have provoked such righteous condemnation—not of Scotland and well-informed, intelligent Scots, but of that class who in the arrogance of their ignorance (Don Quixote-like) tilt at the windmill of "Hard Facts" mounted on that ill-conditioned, broken-winded, weak-kneed jade "Elementary Education!" I agree on one point with "Unspeakable Scot"—William 1st certainly was a Norman, but what of that? Who held him up as an English hero?—Yours, etc.,

PAX VOBISCUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th June.

SIR,—In the interests of suffering humanity please insist that future correspondence from Scots, "unconquered" or otherwise, must be correctly spelt. We can stand bad grammar and bad temper, but save us from bad spelling. Here is a sample from "An Unconquered Scot's" letter dated 25th June:—
"but, *puir callant*, ye maybe ken nae better." Some Scottie or other will be telling us this is Scotch, and not badly spelt English. By the way, how many swelled-headed Scots in Hongkong or elsewhere can speak or write a single sentence in *pukka* Scotch, not the pidgin broken-English sampled above, but the genuine article? Not one, my child, not one! Can any of your readers favour with the complete poem entitled "Scotia?" The last two lines are as follows:—

"Land of chiefs so fond of country
That they leave it fast by scores."

—Yours, etc.,

A LOVER OF "SCOTCH."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 26th June.

SIR,—I have read with much amusement your Scotch correspondence during the past few days. I talked the matter over with several "Speakable Scotchmen," who are all agreed that "Unspeakable Scot's" first letter was quite unnecessary, and a slur on his broader-minded countrymen. Most Scotchmen are proud of being members of the most glorious British Empire, from which "Unspeakable Scot" prefers to alienate himself. I notice that your

correspondent "An Unconquered Scot" mentions in his letter published to-day the word "havers." I know there are some Scots who will "have" you every time, in fact, I have been had myself by one. Surely "An Unconquered Scot" does not mean that all Scotchmen are "havers?" In future, I think it would be better for us loyal subjects of the Empire if, when we were to see an anonymous letter from an unspeakable nameless, unmentionable Scot or whatever else he likes to call himself, we were to ignore his Skye-terrier bite and remember some of the things for which we ought to be grateful to Scotland:—Whisky by "Chiefs" Dewar, Buchanan, Johnny Walker, etc.; jam, pickles, fish and meat by "Chiefs" Macnochie Bros, etc., Scotch scones, Scotch collops, porridge, Dundee marmalade, and, last but not least, butter-scotch, which was surely invented in the "Land o' Cakes"—ours, etc.,

EMPIRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th June.

SIR,—I really must express the thanks which I feel are due from me to the two Unspeakable ones from the North of the Tweed. The amusement they have afforded me by their highly instructive and entertaining letters is great and undoubtedly deserves acknowledgment. I thank them most heartily.

As regards the absorption of Scotland by England, or *vice-versa*, as "An Unspeakable Scot" would seem to prefer it, I do not think there is very much to be said. It is plainly obvious to anybody who has any knowledge of history that neither nation ever absorbed the other. The accession of James VI of Scotland to the throne of England in 1603 was an event rendered inevitable by laws of succession and by the dying declaration of Queen Elizabeth. The following is quoted from Tytler's History of Scotland (Vol IV, page 314):—"King James the Sixth was proclaimed heir and successor to Elizabeth, both by proximity of blood, and, as it was now positively added, by her own appointment upon her deathbed."

In spite of the two nations being now under one Sovereign, the national institutions of each were still quite distinct and, as of old, antagonistic. So much was this the case that in 1640 a Scottish army of 26,000 men invaded Northern England, and were so successful that Charles I concluded a truce with the Scots. England and Scotland remained distinct nations until the Union of May, 1707. As late even as 1702 the Scottish Parliament passed an Act, which Queen Anne sanctioned to avoid war, whereby they retained to themselves the option of determining whether, after her demise, the union of the crowns should continue. Even since the Union, Scottish law has remained distinct from the English even up to the present day. The question of absorption is now brought down to the year 1707. I will leave it to the "unspeakable ones" and their opponents to decide which nation absorbed the other, merely remarking that the seat of Government was now in London rather than Edinburgh. Personally I should evade the question by declaring that both nations were equally absorbed by a new creation—Great Britain.

There is one other point on which I should like to remark. In his second letter "An Unspeakable Scot" claims that Scots have done more than their share of colonising work "planting seed the fruit of which in all probability the English reap." Does he mean that the Scots have been used as *catspaws* by the English? His letter certainly conveys that impression. What a very ignominious position to claim!—Yours, etc.

LOOKER-ON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th June.

SIR,—Suggested that such an interesting and instructive (?) controversy as is now being carried on through the medium of your paper between the "Unspeakable Scot" and "Englishman" and others be issued later on in pamphlet form, as it would indeed be a pity to deprive those residents of Hongkong temporarily absent on business or leave of the opportunity of being amused and instructed (?) at the same time. It would certainly be of great use to other Eastern cities if this pamphlet

was sent to their clubs and libraries, [as it might induce many others to carry on these innocent and amusing discussions to the edification of the reading public in general. Hoping this will receive your due consideration.—Yours, etc.,

INTERESTED.

[This correspondence must now close.—ED. D.P.]

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 23rd June.

SIR,—I think it is time now for our local Legislative Assembly or the Chamber of Commerce to take steps to put a stop to the circulation of Chinese coins minted at Canton. I understand these coins at present command a discount of 7 per cent. Cannot a short bill be introduced at the next sitting of Council to stop the importation or circulation of these illegal coins within this Colony? To meet the demands of this place the Government should wire at once for a big supply of Hongkong subsidiary coins.—Yours, etc.,

SYCEE.

PLAGUE AND THE USE OF—SOAP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 23rd June.

SIR,—Mr. Grant Smith's letter in your issue of the 22nd inst. was a most interesting one, and reminds me of a conversation I had a little while ago with an intelligent and unsophisticated native. "Mr. Pairs," said he, "how is it that Europeans so seldom get plague?" To which I unhesitatingly replied, "Because they usually use soap." On receiving this simple reply the Oriental thanked me and withdrew. He has since informed me that on his return home he washed himself, his house, and his family with soap and water without dangerous consequences, and that none of his household has developed signs of plague since. I venture to think that there is something in my soap theory. Any one provided with a nose can assure himself of the lack of (the use of) soap in the Chinese quarters by simply taking a stroll through the salubrious (?) purlieus of this great Plague Emporium of the East!—I am, &c.,

JOHN PAIRS.

MACAO LETTER DELIVERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 27th June.

SIR,—Many complaints are current in the Colony about the late delivery of Macao letters, and for my part I can say that, of late, not less than four letters were delivered at my office after 3 p.m. One of those was a registered letter containing a cheque to be cashed and the money to be returned the same day. Of course this delay has put my correspondent to great disappointment and inconvenience, owing to the cheque being not cashable after 3 p.m. This is not the only instance, but there are many more that I refrain from bringing forward, being ordinary correspondence.

In my opinion, the new Postmaster-General should investigate the matter. I would suggest that, at least, two clerks should be detached to attend to the Macao mail daily, and that the correspondence be delivered as soon as the mail has been dealt with, without interference with any other inward or outward contract or private mails. This system has been proved to be very successful *in illo tempore*, when the Post Office was in its highest standard of efficiency under the able administration of the late Mr. Lister.

Thanking you for the insertion of above.—Yours, etc.,

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

The new Mint is stated to have paved the way to the adoption of an improvement in minting in Siam, the need of which has long been recognised. Coining from bar silver has been looked forward to for some time and it is now understood that a large purchase of bar silver has been made in London, and that an expert assayer has been engaged. At some not too distant date, therefore, the old system of manufacturing the silver coins of the country from dollars will come to an end.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 19th June.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR H. S. BERKELEY.
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE).

FORGING A CHOP.

Fong Fui was charged with having on 23rd January, 1902, at Shaukiwan, stolen a chop and an account book, the property of U Kwan; forged a request for the payment of money purporting to be signed by U Kwan and addressed to the Ut Lung shop; offered the said forged request to the Ut Lung; and received thereby, with intent to defraud, the sum of \$150 from Tsan Kei g.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. C. Oldorp (foreman), E. Kennedy, W. C. P. Stoppa, R. Hemmings, F. E. Shuster, G. Brusse and W. B. Boyce.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., who conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Acting Attorney-General, said in his opening statement that the prosecutor was master of the U Kwan fish-shop at Shaukiwan. In August, 1901, accused was given some employment by the prosecutor. When the latter was away buying fish the prisoner used to look after the shop. Prisoner had been in the employment of U Kwan in this way from August, 1901, till January, 1902. On 23rd January the prosecutor went out early in the morning in a boat to get fish from Shaukiwan Harbour leaving prisoner behind in charge. Shortly after 11 o'clock U. Kwan returned and found that the prisoner had gone away. Next day the prosecutor went to the Ut Lung salt-fish shop on business and the master showed him a letter purporting to be a request for money from U Kwan and bearing the U Kwan chop. The prosecutor was very much astonished as he had never authorised such a letter to be written. On going back to his shop he found that the chop and an account-book were missing. He knew that the prisoner was connected with a place called Tai O. Accordingly on 20th January he went to Tai O to look for the prisoner, whom he suspected of being the thief. He saw the prisoner. When the prisoner saw him he jumped into the water and swam away. On a subsequent occasion the prosecutor again went to Tai O to look for the prisoner who once more made good his escape by jumping into the water. Ultimately the prisoner was arrested about 1st May this year.

After hearing evidence, the jury found the prisoner guilty as libelled.

His Lordship passed sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

ANOTHER FORGERY CASE

Chan Kwong was charged with having on 27th April uttered forged requests for the delivery of six bags of almonds and ten bags of fungus and two boxes of pickled fish purporting to be chopped by the Tung Cheung Lung shop.

He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. E. Luder, R. J. Macgowan, H. A. Allen, H. M. Webb, W. A. H. Otto, D. A. Cordeiro, and G. E. Gomes.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at law, conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Acting Attorney-General. He stated that prisoner was described as a person of no occupation. On the morning of 27th April about seven o'clock he went to the shop of the Kwong Fat Yun, 120, Des Voeux Road West, and ordered six bags of almonds and ten of fungus, representing himself to be an agent for the Tung Cheung Lung. The salesman asked him to bring the ordinary request from the firm for the delivery of the goods. About twelve o'clock prisoner returned bringing with him a document purporting to be a request from the Tung Cheung Lung for delivery of these goods. Being suspicious regarding the order, the salesman went along with the prisoner to the Fung Cheung Lung shop to verify it. The master of Fung Cheung Lung when shown the order said he had never made such an order and that it was a forgery. Chan Kwong was accordingly arrested. It appeared that prisoner also went to the Wing Man shop in Bonham Strand West, said he wanted to buy some pickled fish, and arranged to buy two boxes

worth \$260, telling the salesman he came from the Tung Cheung Lung ship. It was further arranged that on the next day he should bring on order from the Fung Cheung Lung for delivery of the fish. He brought this order purporting to be chopped by the Fung Cheung Lung for delivery of the goods on the very day on which he was arrested.

The jury, after hearing evidence, found the prisoner guilty as libelled.

His Lordship, in passing sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labour, said that prisoner was apparently one of a gang going about trying to obtain goods upon forged orders.

ASSAULT AND ROBBERY.

Leung Shiu, Chan Kat and Han Shiu were charged with having on 25th May at Hok-On assaulted Chan Shiu and Wong Chau and robbed them of \$150 and various articles of jewelry and clothing. On a second count the first and second prisoners were charged with receiving stolen property.

The first and second prisoners pleaded guilty on both counts; the third pleaded not guilty.

This case was first of all called in the forenoon, and was adjourned until after tiffin-time. When the Court met after tiffin.

The Attorney-General stated that he was prepared to accept the pleas tendered and did not propose to proceed against the third prisoner. This was a bid case. The robbery took place in the night. The inmates of the house were threatened, assaulted, gagged and bound and the house was practically cleared out. The first and second prisoners were found almost immediately after the robbery with the bulk of the stolen goods upon them.

His Lordship said this was a serious offence. The sentence generally given to robbers by that Court was five years and a flogging. As they had pleaded guilty, he would sentence them to three years' imprisonment with hard labour; and with a view to discourage the violence which people of their sort exhibited towards persons whom they robbed, he ordered that they be flogged with 20 strokes within the first week of their imprisonment.

FORGERY.

Un Shung was brought up on a charge of having on 29th May forged and uttered a request for the delivery of three cases of white shirts purporting to be chopped by Hing Kee.

He pleaded guilty and stated in extenuation of his crime that the prosecutor had owed him some money as commission since last year and refused to pay it. Some of prisoner's friends advised him to do so and so, and accordingly he got this false order made.

His Lordship said this was no excuse or palliation. Sentence—three years imprisonment. The Court adjourned.

Monday, 22nd June.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISS
(PRESIDENT JUDGE).

Sze Wo was indicted on four charges for offences under the Women and Girls' Protection Ordinance, 9 of 1897, and section 22 sub-section 1.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Acting Attorney-General.

The following were the jury:—Messrs. W. A. H. Otto (foreman), G. Hunter, W. B. Boyce, W. C. E. Stopps, F. E. Shuster, H. Ruttonjee, and V. Curran.

His Lordship passed sentence of two years in respect of each of the two first offences and one year in respect of the third—in all five years' hard labour.

The Court adjourned.

Tuesday, 23rd June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

HANG FUNG KUNG SZE v. TANG KOW.

In this action the plaintiff had sued Tang Kow for the recovery of \$1,339.21, being principal and interest due on a promissory note. Judgment was entered for the plaintiff but

execution was stayed, and leave given to the defendant to bring in a counter-claim. The defendant now claimed \$6,089.31 damages and \$137 money paid.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors), appeared for Tang Kow; and the other side was represented by Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. John Hays of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors).

In the counter-claim it was stated that the defendant was an engineer and resided at Yaumati, and the plaintiffs were merchants and Californian goods dealers carrying on business at 241, Des Voeux Road. On 4th February, 1901, the defendant chartered from the plaintiffs the lorcha *Shun Wi Tung* for a period of three months, at the rate of \$1,500 a month, payable in advance, to proceed on a voyage from Hongkong to Mindoro in the Philippine Islands, and there to load and carry back to Hongkong a cargo of damaged goods. The charter-party was in writing and was made between the defendant and one Su Yeung, the master of the lorcha, on behalf of the plaintiffs, the owners of the lorcha. The goods were portion of the cargo of the s.s. *Fatani Maru* which had been wrecked on or near the island of Mindoro, and the lorcha was intended to be used in the salvage operations necessary to obtain the cargo. On or about 4th February, 1901, the defendant paid to the plaintiffs, \$1,500, the charter money for the first month, and loaded on board the lorcha apparatus for saving cargo of the value of \$4,039.39. On 5th February, the lorcha sailed from Hongkong and on the 12th was wrecked by reason of the ordinary perils of navigation before coming to Mindoro and without having loaded the aforesaid cargo, and the apparatus was totally lost. By reason of the non-fulfilment by the plaintiffs of the charter-party the cost to the defendant of carrying out the salvage operations was increased by \$1,850 in addition to the cost of new apparatus to replace that lost as aforesaid. The sum of \$1,850 was made up of \$1,500 charter money paid to the plaintiffs as aforesaid, and \$350 extra expenses incurred in consequence of the loss of the said lorcha. And further by reason of the non-fulfilment of the said charter-party by the plaintiff a delay of over one month was caused in the commencement of the said salvage operations, whereby the said cargo was deteriorated and the defendant thereby suffered damage to the amount of \$200. The defendant on or about 7th February paid for and on behalf of the plaintiffs the sum of \$32 for the cost of fumigating the lorcha and her crew and on or about 21st February paid a further sum of \$105 for and on behalf of the plaintiffs for the passages of the crew from Manila to Hongkong.

In the defence against the counter-claim the plaintiffs admitted receiving from the defendant on or about 4th February, 1901, the sum of \$1,550 as charter money for one month paid in advance, but denied their liability to refund the same. Plaintiffs admitted that the vessel sailed and was wrecked but said that the wreck was occasioned by the perils of the sea. Plaintiffs had no knowledge of the apparatus for saving, which was stated to have been shipped on board the lorcha or that the apparatus was lost, and further denied any liability in connection therewith. The plaintiffs had no knowledge of the sum of \$300 expenses or of the damage amounting to \$200 referred to in the counter-claim, and further denied any liability in connection with either sum. As to the several sums of \$32 and \$105 referred to in the counter-claim, the plaintiffs had paid into Court the sum of \$177 and stated that that sum was sufficient to satisfy the defendant's counter-claim.

After hearing argument,

His Lordship adjourned the case to allow the counter-claim and defence to be amended in several particulars, reserving the question of costs.

Thursday, 25th June.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WM. M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

Mr. F. C. Barlow of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, solicitors, appeared in support of an

application for adjudication on the estate of Wong Tat Hang, the application having been made on behalf of two creditors.

His Lordship asked if a public examination of the debtor had been held?

Mr. Barlow said that there had been no public examination.

His Lordship then called attention to Section 17 which states that as soon as may be after the filing of the statement of affairs a public examination of the debtor should be held. If the claim of a debtor were to be allowed it might turn out that a friendly creditor might take out a bankruptcy petition what time the debtor cleared out to Canton and the debtor was adjudged bankrupt. On the other hand there might be cases in which it would be impossible to hold a public examination.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd (Official Receiver) said that so far as Canton was concerned 99 per cent. of debtors were able to get away out of the Colony. Under sub-section 3 of section 16 if a statement of affairs had been filed, then the Court might adjudge on the debtor's estate forthwith.

The Chief Justice asked what Sir Henry Berkeley had done in similar cases while he acted as Chief Justice.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd said that Sir Henry Berkeley had refused adjudication in two cases with most disastrous results to the creditors. The owner, who was in the last stages of consumption and could not return to the Colony, had sent his son to make out a statement of his liabilities which showed that his liabilities were some \$60,000 and his assets \$15,000.

Going upon sub-section 3 section 16, his Lordship granted adjudication on the estate and appointed Mr. Bruce Shepherd as Official Receiver.

The Court adjourned.

HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LD.

The following is the report of the board of directors to the fourteenth ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the company's offices, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, at 12.30 p.m., on Saturday, 11th July:—

The balance at credit of profit and loss account is \$82,167.11; after deducting directors' fees (\$3,000) there remains the sum of \$79,167.11 available for appropriation, and your directors recommend that this be disposed of as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 9 per cent:—	
Say 90 cents per share	
on 30,000 fully paid	
shares	\$27,000.00
Say 45 cents per share	
on 30,000 part paid	
shares	13,500.00
	\$40,500.00
To write off plant account for depreciation	31,741.11
To write off furniture account for depreciation	473.00
To carry forward to next account	3,453.00
	\$79,167.11

The Manager reports that the number of lamps, fans, and motors connected to the Company's supply service on the 1st June was equivalent to upwards of 22,000 lamps of 3 candle-power. 85 arc lamps are maintained by the Company and 11 electric lifts are being operated by the power service. During the year a new small alternator set has been brought into operation, a new storage battery for the power service has been erected, and the old battery is being overhauled and repaired.

DIRECTORS.

Hon. C. S. Sharp having resigned his seat on his departure from the Colony, Mr. A. G. Wood was invited to take his place on the Board. In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. G. H. Medhurst and A. G. Wood retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Gershom Stewart and J. C. W. May (the latter in place of Mr. J. C. Peter, who is absent from the Colony). These gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

A. G. Wood, Chairman.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1903.

The accounts are as follows:—

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

To 30th April, 1903.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital:—			
3,000 shares each \$5 paid up	30,000.00		
3,000 shares each \$5 paid up	150,000.00		
	45,000.00		
Sundry creditors	6,481.00		
Dividends unclaimed	2,639.53		
Suspense account	1,757.29		
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	2,906.81		
Balance of profit and loss account	82,167.11		
	\$545,954.74		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Plant, cost of, as per last account	315,462.57		
Less amount provided for depreciation	25,462.57		
	\$29,000.00		
Cost of plant since added	44,741.11		
	334,741.11		
Property, cost of land and buildings as per last account	82,211.97		
Installation material, stock of	72,443.80		
Stores and coal, stock of	15,687.68		
Tools, &c., stock of	1,192.10		
Furniture, cost of, as per last account	425.00		
Cost of furniture since added	143.00		
	573.00		
Insurance—value of unexpired portions of policies	901.00		
Sundry debtors	32,899.91		
Cash with agents	5,361.18		
	\$545,954.74		

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To agency and office expenses	6,000.00		
To rent and taxes	2,683.75		
To insurance	2,832.24		
To interest	349.21		
To auditors' fees	200.00		
To amount carried to profit and loss account	8,891.72		
	\$22,232.92		
Cr.		\$	c.
By net profit on working	92,187.82		
By scrip and transfer fees	55.50		
By bad debts recovered	332.00		
Less provision made for bad debts of the past year	16.41		
	15.60		
	\$92,232.92		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		\$	c.
To amount available for appropriation	82,167.11		
Cr.		\$	c.
By amount of undivided profit, as per last account	1,275.33		
By balance of working account brought down	80,891.72		
	\$2,167.11		

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

The following is the twenty-first annual report of the board of directors of the above Company presented to the shareholders at the twenty-second ordinary general meeting, held at the offices of the Company, on the 4th June, at noon:—

The depressed condition of the shipping trade in the Far East during the year under review will have prepared shareholders for financial results much less satisfactory than the handsome earnings of the two previous years. Notwithstanding serious adverse circumstances, however, it is gratifying that, after crediting over £36,000 for the usual premium of insurance to underwriting account, the revenue can still provide (with the aid of the sum brought forward from 1901) for income tax, interest charges, and also £59,185 for depreciation on steamers, and yet leave a credit balance.

Owing to these causes a dividend could hardly have been looked for, but the absence of any total loss or of serious damage to the Fleet for a long period has allowed of an accumulation of profit on the underwriting account, which nearly equals half the paid-up capital of the Company, and the directors consider this account has reached such dimensions that they are justified in the interests of the shareholders in transferring £28,635 16s. 9d. to revenue, leaving still the large sum of £240,000 at credit of underwriting account.

This transfer increases revenue account to

£30,174 1s. 7d., and it is recommended that a dividend of 5 per cent., free of income tax, be declared, thus absorbing £24,794 10s., and leaving £5,380 5s. 7d. to be carried forward to the new account.

The Company's fleet has, during the past year, been further strengthened by the addition of the new steamers *Yik Sang*, *Choy Sang* and *Kwong Sang*, in replacement of vessels sold at satisfactory prices. Two additional steamers for the coast trade were contracted for during the year and both have now been delivered.

The board have not availed of the proposed increase of capital alluded to at the last annual meeting.

There has been some improvement shown in the freight market this season over the earnings of last year at same time, but it is not possible to forecast from present prospects what results may eventually be realised.

The directors deplore the unexpected death of their late chairman, who had been on the board since the formation of the Company, and they have just learned with regret of the death of Mr. W. L. Watson, who had retired from the board in 1901. The directors have appointed Mr. H. Beazley, a well-known former resident in China, to the board, and his appointment requires confirmation. Mr. W. Paterson, who retires in rotation, offers himself for re-election.

The auditors, Messrs. Turquand, Youngs & Co., likewise offer themselves for re-election.

By order of the board,

A. G. WELLS, Secretary.

London, 22nd May, 1903.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET, at 31st December, 1902.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.
To share capital: Authorised £1,200,000				
first issue 60,000 shares each £10,				
whereof 49,587 subscribed and fully				
paid up	495,891	0	0	
To balance of underwriting account	240,000	0	0	
To general reserve fund	100,000	0	0	
To exchange reserve account	100,000	0	0	
To sundry creditors in London and China	63,110	8		
To loans	54,000	0	0	
To deposits	61,645	0	6	
To balance from revenue account	30,174	15	7	
	£1,047,683	10	1	

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
By steamships, hulks, ferry boats, &c.	94,249	2	1	
Less depreciation written off for this year	59,185	0	0	
	35,064	2	1	
This includes the value of s.s. <i>Kow-shing</i> , claimed from the Chinese Government.				
By coals and provisions on board ships and in godowns	11,506	8	10	
By office furniture	63	1	10	
By sundry debtors in London and China, agents' balances, freights, &c.	102,624	7	5	
By cash in London and China	8,420	9	11	
	£1,047,683	10	1	

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Dr.		£	s.	d.
To general charges and telegrams in London and China, directors' and auditors' fees	5,354	5	8	
To depreciation account—				
On steamships, &c.	£59,185	0	0	
On office furniture	10	0	0	
	59,195	0	0	
To income tax account	7,977	5	10	
To interest account	4,153	14	9	
To balance transferred to balance sheet	30,174	15	7	
	£106,855	1	10	
Cr.		£	s.	d.
By balance brought forward from 1901	17,637	16	6	
By net earnings of steamers for the year including profit on exchange	59,912	11	4	
By amount transferred from underwriting account	28,635	16	9	
By dividend warrants outstanding, now transferred	599	16	9	
By transfer fees	28	17	6	
	£106,855	1	10	

Rear-Admiral Kamikura writes to Japan that the Japanese Training Squadron has had a most cordial reception in the Australian ports it has visited. Admiral Baron Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy, has wired to the Governor-General of Australia his sincere thanks for the cordial treatment accorded to the officers and men of the Squadron.

REVIEW.

A Manual of Chinese Quotations. By J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G., F.R.G.S., M.R.A.S., H.B.M.'s Commissioner at Weihaiwei. Hongkong: Kelly and Walsh.

THE first edition of our late Colonial Secretary's *Manual of Chinese Quotations*, published in 1893, is too well known among Chinese students to call for commendation at this date. Mr. Stewart Lockhart's translation of the *Ch'eng Yü K'ao* has for ten years been in the hands of scholars and had established its reputation among them as a standard work of its class. That a second edition should be called for on occasions therefore no surprise, rare though the reappearance of a book dealing with the Chinese language may be—as is pointed out in the introduction to this edition of the work before us. In the new issue of the *Manual* the mistakes of the first edition have been corrected as far as possible, in some instances improved translations have been given of the Chinese quotations, and an English index has been made—the latter a very necessary addition. Also a great number of references to the sources of the quotations have been added. The author acknowledges his indebtedness for help in revision, correction, etc., to Mr. Cecil Clement-Alexander, Assistant Registrar-General in Hongkong “one of the most promising of the younger generation of Chinese scholars”; to Messrs. Au Fung-chi and Li Kin-ching, of the local R.G.O.; and to Père Corentin Pétillon's *Allusions Littéraires* and various reviews of the first edition of the *Manual*. The book is dedicated to the late Professor Legge and Dr. Chalmers, both of whom have died since the first edition appeared.

To the publishers, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, much credit is due for the way in which this *Manual of Chinese Quotations* is produced. The printing is excellent, clear and the paper good. In view, no doubt, of the ravages of the climate the work appears in a paper cover. Bound according to the possessor's fancy, the *Manual* should be in all Chinese students' libraries.

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 20th June were 274 non-Chinese and 74 Chinese to the former, and 43 non-Chinese and 1,593 Chinese to the latter institution.

There are rumours that Hongkong will send a cricket team, a rowing four, and possibly a football eleven to Shanghai this autumn. The four have already challenged, but the other contests seem doubtful.

The compulsory daily administration of quinine pills to the members of the Police Force has been discontinued. It seems that a sudden order for between 4,000 and 5,000 pills to meet the week's requirements paralysed the pill-mixing department.

With reference to the request made by Mr. Pollock at the Sanitary Board for the publication of the memorandum of Dr. Pearce upon the construction of certain provisions of the Public Health Ordinance, 1 of 1903, we were informed upon enquiring at the Sanitary Office that the document had been withdrawn.

Senders of telegrams from Hongkong will be glad to hear that from the 1st prox. the charges for transmission will be collected at the rate of 48 cents to equal one franc. On the 20th December last the charge was advanced from 40 cents to 45 cents, and again on the 26th March to 50 cents—the rate at present existing. The price is subject to revision after three months.

The completed portions of the tram lines are proving traps for the unwary ricksha-puller, the wheels of whose vehicle frequently become “locked” in the rails, which they scan exactly. One ricksha the other day was so firmly caught that the passenger had to alight whilst the coolie lifted it out. Accidents may happen, and either ricksha-pullers will have to be more careful as to the part of the roadway they travel on, or the wheels of the vehicles will require to have a broader rim.

Mrs. Chisholm, residing at 8, Cameron Terrace, Kowloon, was found dead in bed on the 24th inst. A servant "boy" made the discovery. When he entered the room he found his mistress still in bed, though it was nine o'clock and after her usual hour of rising. She was lying as though asleep, but when he attempted to wake her he found that she was dead. The husband, a marine engineer, is away on a voyage, and there was no one in the house except the "boy," who informed a friend of the family of what had occurred. The police at Tsimshatsui were communicated with, and in the afternoon the body was removed. A post-mortem examination was held the following morning. The deceased, who was between 30 and 40 years of age, and a native of Aberdeen, in Scotland.

Captain and Mrs. Arbuthnot returned on the 22nd inst. on the *Stanley* from their trip on the West River. The steamer left Hongkong on the 11th and anchored the same night under Lantau. Next morning Macao was reached and there a stop was made until Tuesday at noon. Samshui was the next place of call; then Shulhing was made for, the *Sandpiper* acting as a belated escort en route. On Wednesday the *Stanley* went to Lokym and Captain and Mrs. Arbuthnot made a trip by boat and mountain-chair to the Buddhist Temple. On the 20th they returned to Samshui; on the 21st they breakfasted on board the *Sandpiper*, after which the *Stanley* proceeded by way of Money Penny Creek to Canton, arriving on the 21st inst. She left for Hongkong on the 22nd inst. at 9 a.m. and in the record time of 1½ hours reach Tungchung (Lantau) where a stay of two hours was made, and the *Stanley* got alongside Blake Pier at 7.15 p.m. on the 22nd inst. Captain W. Robinson was in command of the *Stanley* during the trip and did all the piloting himself.

On the 19th inst. a water-polo match was played at the Victoria Recreation Club's enclosure between teams representing the Royal Engineers and the Club. The Engineers turned up one man short and A. E. Alves made up their team. Their players were Jackson, Brown, Melbourne, Rogers, Manna, and Goodwill. For the V.R.C. there played R. Henderson, C. Alves, J. Millar, N. Alves, O. Chunnut, A. Barros and H. Rapp. The Club showed much superior form and staying powers and won a fast game by 8 goals to 3. Barros, N. Alves and Miller played exceptionally well. On the R.E. side the best man was A. R. Alves; Jackson in goal also made a good show—better than the 8 points scored against him would indicate. Mr. A. A. Alves officiated as referee. A new method of marking off the enclosure was introduced in the shape of floating bamboo touch-lines in place of the customary buoys. This idea, we believe, is borrowed from Japan; it is at any rate a distinct improvement; but there seemed to be some difference of opinion as to whether the ball had merely to touch the bamboos or go right over to be out of play, which point will have to be made clear.

The following account of the wedding of Mr. Basil Taylor, Assistant Harbour Master who returned on the 22nd by the *Zafiro*, is taken from the *Manila Times* of the 17th inst.:—Mr. Basil Taylor of Hongkong and Mrs. Clendennin were wedded at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church this morning in the presence of a large gathering of friends, largely made up of the Army set. Bishop Brent performed the ceremony and nine was the hour at which it occurred. Lieut.-Colonel Osgood, father of Mrs. Clendennin, escorted the bride to the altar and gave her into the keeping of her husband. Mr. T. C. Gray of Hongkong, a close friend of the groom, was best man and a number of officers acted as ushers. After the ceremony the bridal party drove to the Oriente Hotel, where a wedding breakfast was served. A driving rain-storm made a river of Calle Nueva in front of the church and while it was fatal to frocks the wedding party did not lose its good humour and bravely paddled through the rain. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor leave at once for Hongkong, where they are to make their home. Mr. Taylor is in the Colonial service and one of the best known and most popular men in the Colony.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 26th June.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG 26th June.—Some demands having come forward, the prices are advancing.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$6.40 to \$6.45	pel.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.70 to 7.75	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	6.15 to 6.20	"
Do. " 2, Brown ...	5.95 to 6.00	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.30 to 8.35	"
Do. " 1, White.....	7.60 to 7.65	"
Do. " 1, Brown ...	5.95 to 6.00	"
Do. " 2, Brown ...	5.85 to 5.85	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.35 to 12.40	"
Shekloong "	10.55 to 10.60	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 26th June.—There have been no arrivals and the prices are slightly advancing.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.85 to 3.70
" Round, Good quality	5.00 to 5.05
" Long	5.10 to 5.15
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	4.05 to 4.10
" Garden, " No. 1	4.30 to 4.35
" White,	5.25 to 5.35
" Fine Cargo	5.40 to 5.45

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Hyson*, sailed on 17th June. For Liverpool:—200 bales mats, 710 bales hemp, 5 cases cigar, 12 cases ginger, 7 cases blackwood-ware, 3 cases sundries.

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan* sailed on the 20th June. For London:—140 bales raw silk, 798 rolls mats and matting, 4 cases private effects, 3 cases feathers, 3 cases cigars, 5 cases bamboo fans, 35 bales cane, 6 cases silks, 2 cases bristles, 3 cases sundries, 1584 packages tea from Foochow. For Genoa:—50 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—225 bales waste silk. For London and/or Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For St. Chamond:—25 bales raw silk. For Milan:—25 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—420 bales raw silk, 5 cases feathers. For Marseilles:—111 bales raw silk, 5 cases feathers.

EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, 17th June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/8
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/8
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/8
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	210
Credits 4 months' sight	213½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	170½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	40½
Credits, 60 days' sight	41½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	124½
Bank, on demand	125
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	124½
Bank, on demand	125
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	81½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	nominal
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	101
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	6½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.92
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	62.50
SILVER, per oz.	24½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Peleus, Alcinous, Nestor, Bingo Maru, Stentor, Dardanus, Canton, Moyune.*
FOR LONDON.—*Massilia, Benlmond, Glengarry, Peleus, Alcinous, Nestor, Bingo Maru, Stentor, Dardanus, Canton, Moyune.*

FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Prometheus.*

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Alcinous, Peleus, Nestor, Annam, Princess Marie, Bingo Maru, Stentor, Dardanus, Moyune.*

FOR BREMEN.—*Suevia, Preussen.*

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Princess Marie, Sithonia, Wurzburg, Suevia, Nurnberg, Badenia.*

FOR ODESSA.—*H. Lerch.*
FOR NEW YORK.—*Arabin, Macduff, Glenesk.*
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Muchaon, Tosa Maru, Tremont, Kaga Maru.*
FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan Tartar*
FOR PORTLAND (OR).—*Indravelli.*
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Eastern, Chinglu.*
FOR SINGAPORE AND CALCUTTA.—*Aragonis.*
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Arratoon Apear.*
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Idzumi Maru, Hiroshima Maru.*

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 26th June, 1903.—The dulness reported in our later issues continued during the earlier part of the week under review, and with rates ruling steady but little business was transacted; towards the end of the week however under the influence of the approaching settlement, the market in most of the leading stocks weakened and a demand, for covering purposes, assisted by some investing order, resulted in a fair business.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled quiet with small sales at \$685 cash, closing steady at that rate. Nationals have been taken off the market at \$27½, and more shares could probably be obtained at the rate.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions have found buyers at \$505; Cantons at \$180, \$182½, and reported sales at \$185. China Traders have been placed at \$61, and Yangtszes and North Chinas at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's continue steady at \$332½ with a small business, and Chinas have been placed at \$85, both stocks closing steady at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao remain very steady with small sales at \$384, closing with buyers at \$38, and sellers at \$38½. Indo-Chinas have changed hands in fir lots chiefly for the settlement account at \$107, \$106½ and later at \$106, market closing at \$106; on time a small business has been transacted at a little lower than equivalent rates. Douglas have been placed at \$40½ and more shares are wanted at that rate. Shell Transports continue weak at 24s. with sellers. Star Ferries have advanced to \$27 and \$16½ for old and new respectively. China and Manilas have been negotiated at \$25 (fully paid up) and at \$21, \$45 paid up.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have declined to \$104 after small sales at \$105, market closing quiet at the former rate. Luzous unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjams continue quiet with a small business at quotation. Banks have changed hands in small lots at \$9 and close steady at that rate. Charbonnages and Jebeus unchanged and without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been negotiated to a small extent at \$214½ and \$214 cash closing quiet at the latter rate. A few shares have changed hands at \$218 for August and \$220 for September. Kowloon Wharfs remain out of favour at \$90 with but little or no business to report. Farnhams have fluctuated between \$17½ and \$182½ with small sales, closing quiet. New Amoy Docks unchanged.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have experienced a sudden drop to \$160 after sales at \$168, \$167, \$164 and \$163, market closing with small buyers at \$160. Hongkong Hotels have further improved to \$154 after sales at \$152 and \$153. Orientals are wanted at the improved rate of \$40. West Points continue quiet but steady at \$52 without sales. Humphreys have been placed at \$124 and more shares are wanted at that rate.

COTTON MILLS.—No change or business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island's have been placed at \$24½ closing with sellers at \$25. China Borneos continue on offer at \$104. Watsons, Electrics and China Providents, have changed hands at quotations. Rops at \$137 and \$140, Steam Water-boats at \$13½ and \$14, and Powells at \$97. Allambras have declined to \$250 without sales.

MEMOS.—China Light and Power Company, Limited, extraordinary general meeting on 27th inst. Electric Light Company, Limited, ordinary yearly meeting 11th July; transfer books close from 27th inst. to 11th July.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	(\$685. 1/2 don, £63. 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$27 1/2, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$27 1/2, buyers
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$5 1/2, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40, sellers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$10 1/2, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$6 1/2
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.75, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$104, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$250, sellers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$18.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 35, sales
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 45.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160.
Hongkong	\$100	\$16, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., (Geo)	\$25	\$47, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$25, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$13 1/2, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$7 1/2, sales & buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$0	\$320.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$14, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$154, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$24 1/2
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$90, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$140, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$185, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$61, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330.
North China	\$25	Tls. 220.
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$100	\$505, sellers
Yangtze	\$30	\$130.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv	\$100	\$160, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12 1/2, buyers
Kowloon Land & B	\$30	\$8, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$52.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10.
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$600, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$1 1/2, sellers
Punjom	\$10 1/2	\$2.80, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	30 cents, buyers
Raubs	18	\$8.75, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$40.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$40, buyers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9.75, buyers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$25, sales & sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$45	\$20.
H., Canton and M.	\$50	\$4 1/2, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$15	\$38, buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$10	\$106, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$27.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$16 1/2.
United Asbestos	\$4	nominal.
Do	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$155.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$23, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	7 1/2, sellers
	\$10	\$14 1/2, sales & sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their latest report to hand (dated 18th June) state:—There has been a strong movement in share during the past week. Docks have remained fully steady, and Langkats have improved until the close, when owing to the sad news of the death of Mr. Campbell yesterday, there is a decline in Maatschappij, etc., in Langkat shares. We think this decline is a very temporary one, and expect to see higher rates. A considerable business has been done in Indo-China Shares, after a fall to Tls. 74 for Settlement shares. **BANKS**—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks: These are quoted in Hongkong at \$680 buyers, the London quotation remains steady at

£63. **MARINE INSURANCE**—North Chinas have been placed locally at Tls. 225, shares are procurable at Tls. 210. Unions are wanted in the South at \$500. China Trade is quoted nominal at \$60. Yangtzes \$130 buyers. Cantons 177 1/2 buyers. **FIRE INSURANCE**—Hongkongs are wanted at \$330 and Chinas at \$84. **SHIPPING**—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steam Boat nominal at \$37 1/2, Indo-Chinas.—A considerable business has been done in these during the week. The market opened on the 11th with sales at Tls. 76 and 75 1/2 June. On the 12th at 75 1/2 and 75 June. On the 13th at 75 June. On the 15th at 74 June. On the 16th at 74 cash and 74 June; 74 1/2 and 75 July, and 75 August. On the 17th 75 1/2 cash and 76, 76 1/2, 77 June Settlement. The market closes quiet with sellers at 76 for the settlement. Douglases are wanted at \$41. Shanghai Tug Boats and Cargo Boats are wanted at quotations. **DOCKS AND WHARVES**. S. C. Farham, Boyd & Co.—The market opened on the 11th with sales at Tls. 187 1/2 cash and Settlement 190 July and 187 1/2 October. On the 12th at 185 cash and 182 1/2 Settlement. On the 13th at 182 1/2 cash and Settlement. On the 15th at 180, 181 cash; 180, 181, 182 June and 185 July. On the 16th at 181 and 182, 182 1/2 June, 183 1/2, 185 July. On the 17th at 18 1/2 and 182 1/2 cash. 182 1/2 Settlement and 187 1/2 July. Hongkong and Whompoa Docks.—Sales are reported at \$214. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves; cash shares have been placed at Tls. 290 and shares for delivery in July at 300. **SUGARS**—Chinas are wanted at \$1 6. Luzons at \$10. Sellers of Peraks at \$70. **MINES**—No business reported in Stocks under this heading. Raubs can be placed at \$8 1/2, and Punjoms at \$2 1/2. **LANDS**—Hongkong Lands have been placed locally at \$186 1/2, Shanghai at Tls. 110. **HUMPHREYS** are wanted at \$12 1/2. **INDUSTRIAL**—We have no business to report in Cotton Stocks. There are buyers of Low Kung Mows at Tls. 4 1/2, and of Hongkong Cottons at \$16. China Flour Mills have been placed at Tls. 75 cum new at Tls. 25. Paper and Pulps have been placed at Tls. 116 1/2 and 116 1/2. Green Island Cements quoted in the South nominal at \$2 1/2. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats: A considerable business has been done in this Stock. The market opened on the 11th with sales at Tls. 300, 297 1/2 and 295 for cash. 295 June, 320, 317 1/2 and 310 September, 320 October. On the 12th at 292 1/2, 295 June Settlement, 287 1/2, 300 July, 320, 317 1/2 October. On the 13th 299 1/2 cash, 300 July. On the 15th at 290 cash and June ex div. of Tls. 10 paid on the 16th inst. and for October at 315. On June 16th cash shares were placed at 295 and 300 and for July at 305, for September 310. On the 17th cash shares were placed at 295 and 30, 297 1/2 and 292 1/2 June; 305 July, 310 August, 310 September and 317 1/2 October. At closing business is reported at 285 and 282 1/2. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 54/52. Shanghai Waterworks are wanted at Tls. 420. Hongkong Electrics are wanted at \$13. **STORES AND HOTELS**—Hall and Holtz have been placed at \$34. Centrals at \$27. Astors at \$31. Watsons are wanted in the South at \$14 1/2. **MISCELLANEOUS**—China Providents are wanted in the South at \$9 1/2. Shanghai Horse Bazaars are offering at Tls. 162 1/2. Telephones have been placed at Tls. 65/66. **LOANS**—Shanghai Land 6 per cent Debentures have been placed at Tls. 101, and Gas at par.

MANILA, P. I.—Messrs. W. A. Fitton & Co. say in their latest Market Report to hand:—Our last circular was dated the 4th ultimo, since when our market has continued lifeless owing to the existing conditions previously reported. Transactions.—Maritimas and Philippine Tobacco Trust have found buyers at quotations, but the amount of business transacted is almost too limited to call for any special mention.—Demand: Virtually nil, although there is some enquiry for Philippines Tobacco Trust, Manila Investment Co., Oriente Hotels, and Varaderos. Maritimas have found buyers in small lots at \$400. Ice Co.'s are strong at \$103 to \$110. In Electricistas holders remain firm at \$35 for old shares, while \$25 gold is asked for those of the new issue. Banco Espanol Filipino shares are being offered at lower prices, but we do not learn of any sales having been effected.—Meetings: The Varadero held its semi-annual meeting on the 18th ultimo, when the balance sheet for the six months ending March 31st was presented to the shareholders. Considering the business conditions ruling during the period the result is very gratifying, and reflects credit upon the management, especially when the increased cost of labour, the increase in import duties on material, and the heavy rate of taxation to which all property holders are subjected to is considered. Gross earnings were

\$109,895.90. Net earnings were \$12,978.56. Although the company requires funds for working expenses, as well as for the new ship under construction, the usual half yearly dividend of 6 per cent on the past month's working was declared, and the balance, \$25,979.86, carried forward to Profit and Loss, which now stands at \$187,959.44, while the Reserve Fund has \$87,733.97, to its credit. The semi-annual meeting of the Manila Investment Co., Limited, is called for the 3rd inst. The balance sheet for the six months ending April 30th last shows a loss of \$60,943.25 carried forward to the debit of P. & L. Account. The Company has recently sold the valuable property known as the Botica de Santa Cruz for \$170,000.00. According to their statement under review this sale shows a loss of \$12,149.97. As this property was taken into the concern at \$130,000.00, and sold for \$170,000.00, a perusal of the report would lead one to believe that there was a profit of \$40,000.00 in the sale; however, this is a mere matter of accounting, and we presume that there was a merchandise Account of \$32,149.97, or in other words the company had advanced to the drug store this sum in order to maintain its stock. If this be true then the account stands as follows:—

The Botica cost	\$130,000.00
Add advances against merchandise	72,149.97
Botica sold for	\$202,149.97
	\$170,000.00

Net loss on the Botica \$32,149.97

We understand from sources outside that the new proprietors of the Botica are enjoying a fairly lucrative trade, in spite of the present hard times. General.—Business generally is very dull, to put it mildly; however, it is said that it is always "darkest before the dawn," so we think it must be very near "daybreak." While we have great respect for the graduates of our liberal Universities in the States it does seem that the government might do worse than add a "practical business man" to their number; this would relieve the other members of an immense amount of work, with which they must necessarily be unfamiliar, and New York, Chicago, St. Louis, and other prominent cities of the U. S. can readily supply the material.

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—	ARRIVALS.
19, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.	
19, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'chinotzu.	
19, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.	
19, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.	
19, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.	
19, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.	
19, Paoting, British str., from Weihaiwei.	
19, Pekin, British str., from Bombay.	
19, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.	
19, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., from Hongoy.	
20, Borg, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.	
20, A. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Chinkiang.	
20, Brunhilde, German str., from N'ohwang.	
20, Espiegle, British sloop, from Shanghai.	
20, Koun Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.	
20, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
20, Phra C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.	
20, Strassburg, German str., from Yokohama.	
20, Taifu, German str., from Mauritius.	
21, Amigo, German str., from Manila.	
21, Arnold Lynken, German str., from Saigon.	
21, Chunsang, British str., from Chefoo.	
21, Foochow, British str., from Shanghai.	
21, Frithjof, Norw. str., from Haiphong.	
21, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.	
21, Labor, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.	
21, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.	
21, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.	
21, Michael Jobsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.	
21, Siberia, American str., from S. Francisco.	
21, Thales, British str., from Swatow.	
21, Thea, German str., from Saigon.	
22, Alcides, British ship, from New York.	
22, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.	
22, Chas. Tiberghien, Ger. str., from Shanghai.	
22, Hikosan Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.	
22, Hongnub, British str., from Straits.	
22, Kong Beng, German str., from Bangkok.	
22, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.	
22, Ningpo, British str., from Canton.	
22, Pakhoi, British str., from Canton.	
22, Taichow, German str., from Sandakan.	
22, Taksang, British str., from Wuhu.	
22, Tremont, American str., from Manila.	
22, Wurzburg, German str., from Hamburg.	

22, Zafro, British str., from Manila.
 23, Airline, British str., from Hankow.
 23, Antenor, British str., from Foochow.
 23, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 23, Choykang, British str., from Canton.
 23, Glenfarg, British str., from Foochow.
 23, Glenartney, British str., from Hankow.
 23, Hangsaug, British str., from Canton.
 23, Kish, British str., from New York.
 23, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
 23, Loksing, British str., from Hankow.
 23, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 23, Roon, German str., from Shanghai.
 23, Taijnan, British str., from Australia.
 23, Yikang, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 24, Benledi, British str., from London.
 24, Boieldier, French barque, from N. York.
 24, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 24, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 24, Stentor, British str., from Liverpool.
 24, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 25, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.
 25, Canton, British str., from Yokohama.
 25, Hamburg, German str., from Hamburg.
 25, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 25, Japan, British str., from London.
 25, Justin, American str., from Cavite.
 25, Kinshiu Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 25, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 25, Siam, British str., from Singapore.
 25, Tacoma, American str., from Tacoma.
 25, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 25, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 26, Aragonia, German str., from Moji.
 26, Arara, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
 26, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 26, Kampot, French str., from Saigon.
 26, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 26, Wonkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
 27, Chunang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Clitus, British str., from Canton.
 27, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Huron, British str., from Moji.
 27, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 27, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.
 27, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 27, Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.

June—

DEPARTURES.

19, Hupeh, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
 19, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
 19, Marie, German str., for Chinkiang.
 19, Phra C. C. Kiao, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 19, Prometheus, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
 19, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 19, Saga, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 19, Saunki Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 19, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 19, Tungshing, British str., for Nagasaki.
 19, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 20, Ballarat, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 20, Chusan, British str., for Europe, &c.
 20, Guthrie, British str., for Kobe.
 20, Haitan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 20, Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.
 20, Kowloon, German str., for Chinkiang.
 20, Kweiyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Paoting, British str., for Canton.
 20, Pekin, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 20, Trigiao, Austrian str., for Swatow.
 20, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 21, An Pho, British str., for Saigon.
 21, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 21, Benlarig, British str., for Singapore.
 21, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Clara Jansen, German str., for Haiphong.
 21, Emma Lyken, German str., for Hoikow.
 21, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 21, Kwellin, British str., for Niugpo.
 21, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 21, Phayun, French str., for Kobe.
 21, Taichong, German str., for Hoikow.
 21, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for Klotzu.
 22, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Canton.
 22, Chousang, British str., for Canton.
 22, Foochow, British str., for Canton.
 22, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 22, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 22, Luohs, German gunboat, for Canton.
 22, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 22, Rinaldo, British sloop, for Bangkok.
 22, Strasburg, German str., for Hamburg.

22, Taksang, British str., for Canton.
 23, Apenrade, German str., for Hoikow.
 23, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Chas. Tiberghien, Ger. str., for N. York.
 23, Claverigg, British str., for San Francisco.
 23, Hangsaug, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Hua, French str., for Haiphong.
 23, Kaifong, British str., for Iloilo.
 23, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
 23, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 23, Suisang, British str., for Samarang.
 23, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 23, Tsintau, German str., for Hoikow.
 24, Antenor, British str., for London.
 24, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 24, Choykang, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Empress of India, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 24, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 24, Glenartney, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Glenfarg, British str., for Singapore.
 24, Hikesun Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 24, Hoibao, French str., for Hoikow.
 24, Nippou Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 24, Olympia, American str., for Tacoma.
 24, Sakhal. British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Seirstad, Norwegian str., for Port Arthur.
 24, Ulabrand, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 24, Victoria, Swedish str., for Swatow.
 24, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
 24, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 24, Yikang, British str., for Canton.
 25, Borg, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 25, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
 25, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 25, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 25, Onsang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 25, Phra C. Kiao, German str., for Swatow.
 25, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 25, Roon, German str., for Europe.
 25, Sz chuei, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Wurzburg, German str., for Yokohama.
 26, Airline, British str., for Kobe.
 26, Alice, German ship, for Columbia.
 26, Amigo, German str., for Hoikow.
 26, Canton, British str., for London.
 26, Elita Nossack, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 26, Hamburg, German str., for Shanghai.
 26, Hanyang, British str., for Yokohama.
 26, Hipsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 26, Niugpo, British str., for Kobe.
 26, Omega, British barque, for Nagasaki.
 26, Siam, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 27, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 27, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Kawachi Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 27, Kinshiu Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 27, Kong Beug, German str., for Bangkok.
 27, Legazpi, American str., for Manila.
 27, Mistrive, German str., for Hongay.
 27, Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Pierre Antouhie, French bge., for Tacoma.
 27, Stentor, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Zafro, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong.
 Mrs. Von Schusta, Messrs. Izard Peterson, H. H. Fox, and T. W. Mitchell; for Bombay.
 Jemadar Moh. Alum, Corl. R. E. Spouse, for Penang, Mr. Alma Baker; for Marseilles, Mr. A. Lavetis; for London, Col. A. Gts. Miller, Raper, Boners and Bunse, Ser. Gibson. Messrs. A. Hammond and R. N. Stubbs.
 Per *Siberia*, from San Francisco, &c. Mrs. M. Avery Allen, Mrs. J. H. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Guedes, Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Westervelt, Mrs. W. Quinton, Miss Bessie Quinton, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. L. Knox, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, M. S. Tonelli, Mr. and Mrs. P. N. de Silva, Mr. P. N. de Silva, jr., Misses Eda Day, Edith and Louisa McCormick, Sir Wm. M. Goodman, Messrs. E. C. Travis, Fred. Goble, Russell Colegrove, G. Dean, E. L. Robertson, L. Fischer, W. S. Allen, H. M. Tibbey, R. M. Lyle, A. N. Gray, P. F. Thordyke, G. W. Bridges and W. Ehrhardt.
 Per *Roon*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. E. Mitow; from Kobe, Rev. and Mrs. Hardy; from Shanghai, Mrs. Schröter, Mr. F. da Silva, Mrs. da Silva, Masters Silva (2), Miss Ethel Lowe, Captain C. W. Mead,

Messrs. A. B. Sorensen, H. P. Wilkinson, C. Clement, Schröter, E. Ghisi, Mandelli, B. E. Morgan, M. H. Simpson, Delf. F. Xavier, O. A. da Cruz, E. S. de Souza, K. F. Dzan and Thomas Barr; from Foochow, Konsul Gumprecht, Dr. Hamman and Mr. H. Finko.

DEPARTED.

Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Rev. Father Hornsley and Mr. B. Mann; for Bombay, Messrs. Sullabally and Bhaymia; for London, Fleet Paymaster Clur, Lieuts. Pently and Quennell and Sergt. Aldridge; from Shanghai, for Penang, Mr. Alma Baker; for Bombay, Mr. Alma Jamader Mahomed; for London, Messrs. A. Diamond, Stubbs, R. N. and Lechus, Col. Serpts. Miller, Raper, Bonessa and Bunce and Sergt. Gibson.

Per *Kumano Maru*, for Manila, Mrs. and Miss Abercrombie, Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley and child, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Harbard, Mrs. W. Anderson and child, Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Patterson and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Goodhart, M. S. R. Dalute, Misses Stanley and Hart, Capt. Park r. Messrs. J. A. Cole, H. Jalandoni, I. Reyes, Furuya, Shinowara, J. H. Dowby, O. Hiramoto, K. Ii and K. Okada; for Brisbane, Misses McLaughlin, M. McLaughlin and Atkinson, Messrs. Atkinson, J. Wyndham, Palmer, W. and E. McLaughlin, Gibbs, G. Bus, J. C. Whitehill and A. W. Bain; for Sydney, Mrs. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Paul, Mr. and Mrs. Sassa, Mrs. Forster, Mrs. Lasseter, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Percival, Mrs. Goodchild, Misses Cawlishaw, Allard, Forster, and Anhill, Messrs. P. H. Cock, H. C. Cock, F. Christie and E. H. Beurlaid; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. T. Learmouth, Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. D. Christie.

Per *Nippou Maru*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Hutchison, Misses M. Boyd, Dixon, J. A. Duncan and Irene Christian and Mr. E. S. Reader; for Yokohama, Messrs. A. R. Lewis and M. Kaneko; for Honolulu, Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Westerveld and Mrs. J. H. Richards; for San Francisco, &c. Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Freed, Mrs. A. J. Gies, Mrs. W. A. Wilson, Misses E. McCormick, I. McCormick and L. M. Hinton, Messrs. H. Lewelyn, N. Brunshvig, Geo. Villain, T. C. Chase, H. K. Rees and C. H. Saunders.

Per *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, &c. Rev. and Mrs. Jas. Simester and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Morris, Mrs. B. Litt, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Black, Mr. and Mrs. H. Locksmith, Mrs. M. K. Fewman, Mrs. Wm. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Basil Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Todd and two children, Mrs. S. M. Brandon, Mrs. L. J. Lambert and infant, Mrs. Wm. Schuster, Misses Hallane, Varney, Underwood and Benyusuf, Dr. Haldaue, Capt. P. Langlands, Mon. C. E. Bonin, Major Radcliffe, Lieut. Ricketts, Capt. Kirkpatrick, Messrs. J. M. and A. M. Marshall, L. Cateach, Israel Putnam, J. C. D. Jones, B. C. Hanson, A. M. Eaton, jr., H. A. de Meli, T. H. Mead, C. J. L. Gilson, James Rankin, E. C. Pontifex, D. Macdonald, H. W. Bird, A. G. T. Somerville, Chas. Pinkey, S. R. Glynce, J. F. Findley, O. C. Terkelsen, A. C. Akehurst, G. V. Hayes, W. J. Southam, G. L. Hill, J. J. Reynolds, W. D. Downey, T. C. Stewart, E. G. Brabrook and H. S. Fowler.

Per *Roon*, for Europe, Mrs. and Master Gowland, Mrs. Moir, Mrs. F. A. Sampson, child and Master Nazer, Mr. T. Stevenson, Mrs. S. van Zan'en and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Barkley, Mr. and Mrs. Boldera, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Earnshaw and children, Mr. and Mrs. K. Lindebaum, Mr. and Mrs. Newett and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. de Ryler de Wildt and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. de Ryler, Mr. and Mrs. de Veer and family, Rev. and Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Harris, Dr. Floranz, Capt. R. R. Gilson, Mr. H. W. Meyer Hillerstrom and family, Messrs. Techniker Aschendorff, Luiz Andreu, B-zold, A. Blass, H. Caron, Giuseppe Colombo, Akmar A. P. Goldammer, P. Graf, Rendant Grossmann, A. Haberkost, Hagemuller, T. Kamimura, H. Lakin, Lavanchy, C. Lee, F. Meinicke, F. W. Middlemas, K. Oldorp, H. W. Peacop, O. Runkar, Pater Santaniello, Frederic Sin, J. H. Stone, Ude, B. L. van der Veen, de Val, O. F. Volhard, H. M. Wise, H. Winkelmann, P. Zimmermann.

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